

# The Shakerite

March 30, 2001 • Volume 71 • Issue 6 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

## take A PEEK

### Marshall Mathers

**6** Debra finds rapper Eminem vile, disgusting and blameworthy. Read on, **Opinion**

### Life after high school

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### #23 still slammin'

**11** Basketball superstar Michael Jordan might have retired years ago, but Air Jordans still rock the court, **Feature**

### He's the man

**12** Luke Rinderknecht marches to a different drummer- he grooves with the world-famous Cleveland Orchestra, **A & E**

### Spring into sports

**14** The weather outside is frightful, but spring teams are ready and spritful, **Sports**

## bovine BANTER

Mad Cow disease has rampaged its way through Europe over the past two decades, affecting cattle, the cattle industry and humans. But here's a few bovine briefs that might still mooove you:



- A cow was once sentenced to two days in prison for eating the lawn outside the courthouse in Wellington, New Zealand.

- Cattle can be identified by their noseprints, just as people can be by their fingerprints.

- For more than 2,000 years a cow's moo was used as a unit of distance in India.

Jenny Heiser

## How SWEET IT IS



Hockey captains Carson Strang and Matt Bartley proudly hold the state championship trophy. "We just wanted it more than everyone else," Bartley said. The Raiders defeated the Padua Bruins, 3-1, to clinch the title. See story, page 16.

Photo courtesy of Jan Strang

## Pep rally canceled

By Will Wemer  
Staff Reporter

Ahhhhhh, the joys of pep rallies. The school spirit, the class color wars, the chance to be outright proud of the red and white.

Yet, after incidents that occurred March 23, Principal Michael Griffith abruptly canceled the spring pep rally, which was scheduled to take place in the North Gym at 2:30 p.m.

The event, planned by Student Council, was to feature the spring sports teams, including the 2000 state champion tennis team and the 2001 state championship hockey team. The main event was to be the unveiling of a "mystery guest."

Freshman Denise Mack, a cheerleader who was to participate in the rally, was very disappointed with Griffith's decision.

"He showed that he has no school spirit," Mack said. "The rally could have brought us to

SEE RALLY, PAGE 3

## Hallway traffic disrupts teaching

• Ninth period observation tallies 300 plus students roaming halls

By Katherine Ekeberg  
and Liz Campbell  
Staff Reporters

Kids running around, standing in groups of five or six, talking and screaming. Is this the scene at a football game or a mall? Hardly. This is the daily scene outside English teacher C.J. Bott's classroom.

"My classroom is near the main entrance. In the morning before school and until 8:20, the noise and language spills into my room. It is offensive and inappropriate," Bott said of the hallway events.

Bott said she sometimes calls security if there is a disruption in the hall. However, even that does not always solve the problem.

"Sometimes security's shouting is as loud as the students because the students ignore them as well," Bott said.

Student presence and behavior in the hallways throughout the school day are increasingly problematic, according to teachers and administrators. In a survey of 100 teachers, 61 percent of



Shakerite file photo

Despite teachers' concern over noise, language and behavior in the halls, several students believe there are no problems.

respondents indicated that their classes are disrupted daily by students in the halls. Of the 42 respondents, 71 percent consider hallway presence and behavior a very serious issue. Ninety percent of respondents identified students being too loud as the primary hallway problem. Students not going to class was selected by 83 percent of respondents. Teachers also gave their

comments, ranging from the language in the hallways to students lying about where they are going to open campus.

German teacher Mary Ashcraft sees students' language and response to intervention in the hallways as the pressing issue.

"I feel the students respond in a disrespectful manner when I

SEE HALLS, PAGE 4

## Where's the beef?

• Meat diseases make band students wary of meals in Europe

By Ashley Davies  
Staff Reporter

Veggie burger anyone?

As spring break approaches, some Shaker students' travel plans are far more serious than what kind of suntan lotion to pack.

Marching band students are headed to Paris and straight into the crisis currently plaguing Europe's food supply.

Stories of contaminated beef causing foot-and-mouth and mad cow disease in Europe are hitting

*"I'm just doing like my mother said and not eating the meat."*

LIZ HABAT  
sophomore

the newsstands, causing parents of Paris-bound students to worry.

With the threat of contaminated beef infecting students, Marching Band Director Tom Deep has been forced to take certain precautions.

"Parents first started asking about [mad cow disease] at the Jan. 30 parent meeting that we held," Deep said. "As soon as we heard about it, we immediately took any beef products off of the menu. We have also sent home a letter and talked to the band as a whole, many times about it."

Students are also taking their own precautions.

"I'm just doing like my mother said and not eating the



# Fate of Malvern school, grounds in question

## • Citizen group opposes plan for condominiums

By Joseph Tartakoff  
News Co-editor

In Shaker Heights, open space is hard to find. So when residents of the Malvern neighborhood learned that the fate of the Malvern School grounds was up in the air, they immediately took action.

"About six months ago we formed a group called Shaker Open Space which is trying to preserve the precious little green space left in Shaker. In particular we were concerned about the future of Malvern School, which is a focal point in the Malvern neighborhood. It's a place where people gather for classes, for parades, and often just to play catch," said Jonathan Scharfstein, co-chairman of Shaker Open Space.

The school building, constructed in 1922, is owned by the city and has been leased to Solomon Schechter School since 1992. Solomon Schechter is planning to move to new grounds in Pepper Pike early next year.

As a result, in September, Shaker Heights mayor Judy Rawson formed a committee to explore potential uses for the property after 2002.

"We examined several options including the construction of a residential development there," said David Weiss, a member of the Malvern Advisory Committee and of the city planning commission.

"I have heard from a lot of people that would like to stay in Shaker after their children graduate from high school, but don't because of a lack of [residential] options. Therefore, the construc-

tion of condos at the Malvern site was something we looked at. Perhaps the best example of this type of 'empty nester' housing was the Shaker Glen development at the intersection of South Woodland and Warrensville Center Road. People have very different opinions on whether Malvern is the best place for that kind of development though," Weiss added.

Shaker Open Space urged committee members to consider uses that would preserve the Georgian brick building and its surrounding land. "We set up a website—www.malvernschool.org to spread factual information on the proposals. We carefully followed all the committee's meetings, distributed flyers and directly communicated with city government," said Scharfstein, whose group has gathered the support of over 450 residents.

In late February, the Malvern Advisory Committee recommended to city council that another school replace Solomon Schechter. Hathaway Brown and the Hannah Perkins School have both expressed interest in either purchasing or leasing the building.

"We stated that our first preference was to preserve the building as either a school, a community arts center or as condos inside the building's shell. A school would be the most desirable occupant. If none of those options were to work financially, then and only then would we consider tearing the building down and building homes," said committee co-chairman and city councilwoman Jan Devereaux.

Devereaux said that City



Malvern School, built in 1922, is a focal point for the Malvern neighborhood.

Council hopes to reach a final decision before Solomon Schechter departs, so that the building will not be left vacant. "All across America people are bemoaning the loss of green space. People choose to live in Shaker because of its long history of beauty. We are worried that a race to build cluster homes would change the visual make-up of the entire community. What's happening at Malvern can happen anywhere in Shaker," Scharfstein said.

In fact, the construction of cluster homes on three vacant lots on Warwick Road, near Shaker Square, is being dis-

cussed. "Nothing has been formally submitted but some developers have met with citizens to discuss building attached condos there, much like those at Belgian Village on Fairhill Road or Shaker Glen. The city is aware that there is a demand for different types of housing in Shaker, including condominiums," said city planner Dan Feinstein.

"We are very concerned about what is going on in the Warwick area, and we're going to follow the situation very carefully," Scharfstein said.

## club NOTES

Club Notes appear monthly. Submit your club's information to *The Shakerite* via Natalie Sekicky's mailbox. Deadline for April listings is April 16.

### SGORR

Marcia Jaffe, adviser  
information  
• Attention Teachers and Student Group on Race Relations members. Students will be facilitating workshops at Woodbury and the elementary schools the week of April 16 - 20.

### Science Olympiad Club

David Klapholz, adviser  
information  
• We meet in room 275.  
• At the regional tournament on Feb 24 at Case Western Reserve University, the Shaker Science Olympiad team came in second place, qualifying for the state tournament in Columbus on April 21.

### Youth Ending Hunger

Bill Scanlon, Kathy Brown, advisers  
information  
• We meet in room 253 B or 278.  
• Updates about club information appear on the door of room 277.  
• On April 10, 26, May 2, 16 and 24 we will be volunteering at the Cleveland Food Bank from 4 to 8 p.m.  
• On April 11 and May 9 we will be volunteering at St. Timothy's Soup Kitchen from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m.  
• On April 20 we will be participating at the Earn-a-thon.  
• On April 22 we will be running a booth at the MS Walk.  
• We will be volunteering at the Cleveland Playhouse on April 26 from 4 to 7 p.m.  
• On May 12 we will be walking at the Hunger Walk from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Latin Club

Jane Ulrich, adviser  
information  
• We meet in room 175, Tuesdays.  
• We have recently returned from our annual convention in Columbus, Ohio which took place March 9 - 11. The 14 member team won many awards.  
• Now we are planning for future fundraisers and our Roman Banquet.  
• The next meetings are on April 11 and 25.  
• We will organize our bake sale at the spring jazz concert.  
• Elections for consul will also be held shortly.  
• Keep an eye out for the next issue of the Grapevine.

### AFS / ISO

Ruth Berger, adviser  
information  
• We meet in room 307.  
• Our big event for April is our short term exchange. In February, 28 students came from Hingham, MA for a four day visit here. We are going to visit Hingham from April 25 - 29. Everyone is excited to reconnect with our new friends.

### Youth Leadership

Ashlie Dyers, adviser  
information  
• We meet at the Shaker Youth and Counseling Center at 16700 Van Aken Blvd.  
• Includes leadership, group building skills and community service. If interested please see Matt Charnas, Rachel Shatten or Meg Robenalt for details. Our next meeting will be April 28.

### Gay/Straight Alliance

Cathy Lawlor, Cindy Finch, advisers  
information  
• Missy Hendrick, Jay Frate and Rebecca Hoover participated in the National Conference for Community and Justice Conference March 14 at CWRU. Alliance members talked about how to make a friend who is gay or lesbian feel safe in school. Students from 55 area high schools attended the conference.  
• Next meeting April 17 in room 132.

## Students help support babies through walk-a-thon

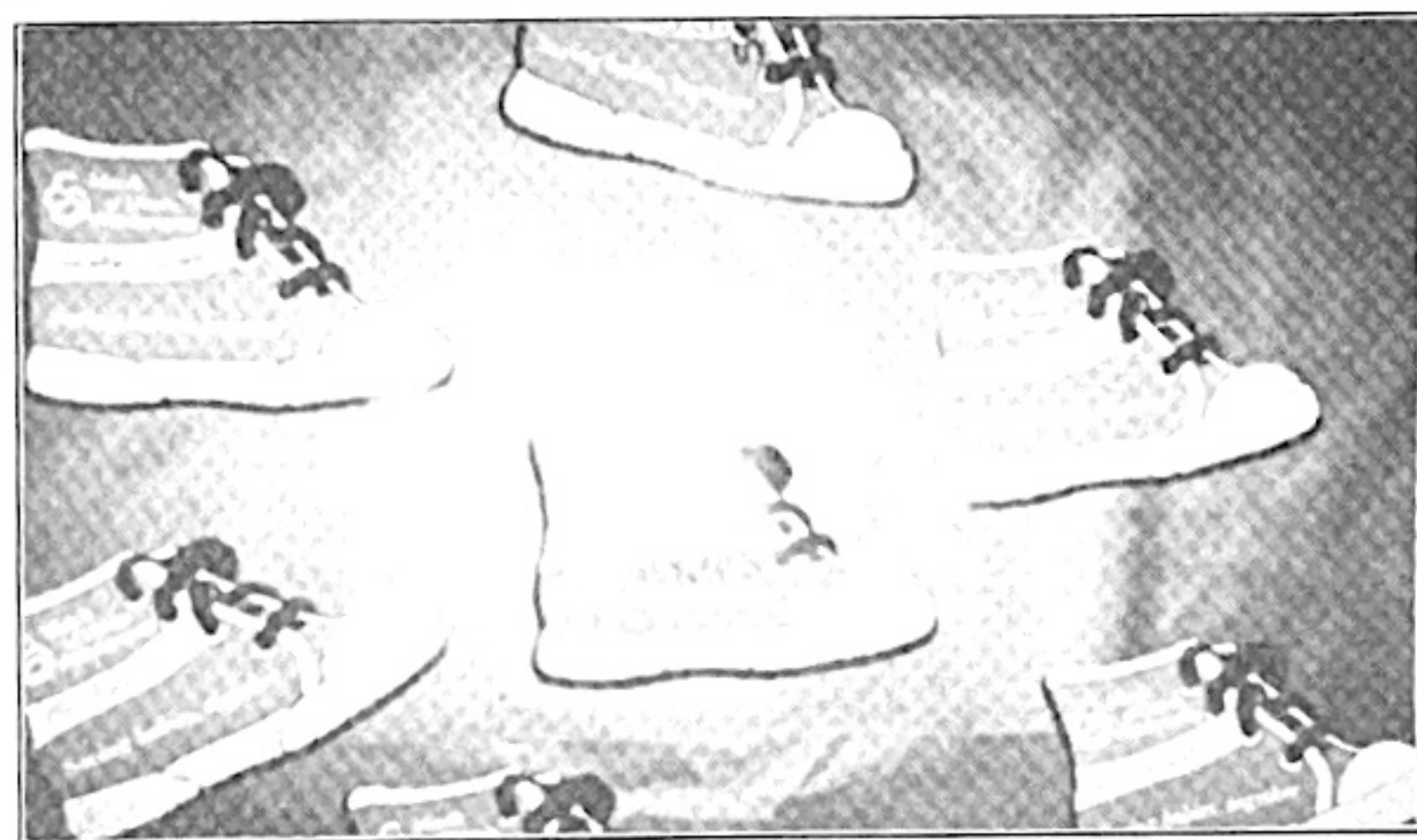
By Jeff Greenwald  
Staff Reporter

The March of Dimes is on a mission to help unborn babies across America, and the fight has just jumped into Shaker's backyard.

"The mission of the March of Dimes is to prevent birth defects and infant mortality," said senior Charlotte Jacobs.

Jacobs and junior Abbey Grodin have helped to bring this battle to the attention of students throughout the school. The duo is putting together a team of volunteers for the 31st Annual Walk America. The team is searching for people to sponsor them for the Walk-a-thon, which raises money to benefit the March of Dimes. This money helps to pay for children's vaccinations and birth defect prevention research.

Jacobs and Grodin are both members of The March of Dimes Chain Reaction Leadership Counsel. The national counsel, which locally consists of 18 teens from



Walk-a-thon members raised money by selling paper shoes to students.

around Cleveland meets monthly to plan different events. "We have passed out information at K-marts along with other things, but Walk America is our big event," said Jacobs. The walk will begin at Tower City on April 28 and will continue through the city ending in The Flats.

Walk America takes place in more than 1400 cities nationwide

and in Puerto Rico with race lengths of approximately 12 miles. The teams vary in size from five members to a group of more than 11,000 K-mart employees who walked in the event last year.

This year there will be more than 9 million people affiliated with companies, unions and schools that will participate in Walk America, more than 500,000

of whom are expected to walk. Last year the event raised more than \$89.3 million and since its inception the event has raised more than \$1 billion.

"I think it is good to give kids an opportunity to excel, especially now when kids have a much harder time," said senior Lauren Cherry, a member of the Walk-a-thon team which currently numbers 17. She has been working with Grodin and Jacobs to help plan fund raisers within the school and to organize the group of volunteers for the Walk-a-thon.

In order to raise money for the event the group is selling Blow Pops for 25 cents in school. Students and faculty can also buy little paper shoes for one dollar that will then be displayed on the student council board in the cafeteria. All the money from these sales will go to help sponsor the group in Walk America.

"I think these kinds of events make it fun to get together and its like a party atmosphere, and they are doing it for a good cause," said Nurse Paula Dworkin. She also said that the money goes to benefit the babies in the form of research that will help them to live healthier lives.

"This years theme for the event [Walk America] is folic acid during and after conception," said Cherry. If taken before and during conception folic acid, which is part of the B-vitamin, greatly reduces the risk of many brain and spinal defects.

Shaker Heights

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## Behavior ruins assembly

RALLY  
FROM PAGE 1

gether."

Sophomore class president Isabelle Tuma, also believes that a spring pep rally is needed. "It's not fair to the spring sports and the hockey team," Tuma said.

The events that spawned the cancellation took place during eighth period, the day of the rally. Inside the cafeteria, a fight broke out between rival classes near the lunch line exit.

During the fight, the fire alarm rang and the school was evacuated. According to Griffith, a smoke detector detected smoke from a burned bag of popcorn in the senior lounge, sounding the alarm automatically.

Outside on the oval, the cafeteria brawl reconvened in the street near the south gym, blocking the fire squad from the South Gym area.

During ninth period, Griffith called a meeting between himself and all assistant principals in the office. There the group decided to go ahead and cancel the rally. At approximately 1:55 p.m., after speaking to Student Council President Amy Lazarus, Griffith came over the P.A. and officially canceled the pep rally. In his announcement, Griffith cited the day's events as evidence that the student body was not ready to be supportive of one another at that moment.

Griffith did not blame the

eighth period behavior solely on the anticipated pep rally, but also on other factors such as the pending spring break, the warm weather and the upcoming weekend.

"I don't believe that the choices made were done because of the pep rally," Griffith said of the lunchroom conflict.

Physical Education teacher Stuart Gilbert, who also coaches track, agreed with Griffith's decision. "If the student body cannot behave, they should not have any extras," Gilbert said.

Shortly after the cancellation, Griffith met with Lazarus and Vice-president Sarah Morgenstern to explain his decision. The three agreed to reschedule the rally for March 27.

"We were disappointed that the pep rally was canceled, but it was canceled for legitimate reasons," Morgenstern said.

Yet, on March 26, Griffith canceled the rescheduled pep rally. According to the principal, teachers complained that another shortened schedule would take away from instructional time sorely needed before the end of a quarter, especially due to the shortened schedule imposed on the previous Friday.

Math teacher Sondra Martin is not opposed to pep rallies, but she questions the timing of this one. "I think when it's the last week of the quarter, there are so many things that need to get done," Martin said.

## DANCING TO MICKEY MOUSE



Mary O'Connell / The Shakerite

Japanese exchange students from Takatori, Japan dance and sing to the Mickey Mouse Club March at an assembly.

## Exchange students welcomed at assembly

By Mary O'Connell  
Staff Reporter

"Welcome, welcome, welcome, you're as welcome as can be! M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E! Ohio! Hello!"

These were just some of the playful sounds sung by the Japanese exchange students Shaker welcomed from Takatori High School at an assembly on March 14.

"This assembly is one of the highlights of the school year. It allows the best talent to shine," said exchange coordinator and Area Studies supervisor Terry Pollock.

The Takatori students' 10-

day visit to Shaker was kicked off with multi-cultural entertainment, including performances by the Senior Ensemble, Austin Cameron and Chloe Hill's rendition of "You're the Tops" from the fall musical, *Anything Goes*.

There was also a performance of recording artist Lauryn Hill's "Nothing Even Matters," by Robin Sadler, Lauren Williams and Aaron Abernathy.

The 16 Takatori students and two teachers surprised the school by singing and dancing to a techno-inspired version of Walt Disney's classic "Mickey Mouse Club March" and a popular Japanese disco song that had Princi-

pal Michael Griffith, Pollock and many students dancing in the isles.

Now in its fifth year, the Shaker-Takatori exchange is sponsored by the Area Studies Japan class, which will travel to Takatori this summer.

While in the United States, Takatori students visited downtown Cleveland, the Great Lakes Science Center, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and Beachwood High School.

They also travelled to Washington D.C. and Niagara Falls. To conclude their visit to North America.

## Meeting addresses student stress

By Joanne Bright  
Staff Reporter

"With six months of observations, many students have stress. In many respects, we are pushing and they are willing to take that push," said Principal Michael Griffith at the Stress and Academic Achievement forum held on March 12 in the Small Auditorium. The evening was sponsored by the Drug, Alcohol and Violence committee of the PTO.

The guest speaker was Cecie

McDonnell, a social worker who deals with adolescents on a regular basis. As a mother of a teenager, she knows that teenagers have a great amount of stress to bear everyday. Throughout her speech, she defined stress, explained how to induce a relaxation response, and discussed the perceptions of stress and what stress has to with adolescents.

"The way teenagers perceive themselves and others is totally skewed," she said.

## Veggie diets on tap for band members

MEAT  
FROM PAGE 1

meat," said sophomore Liz Habat.

With four band directors and administrators, Holly Burger, Reginald Blue and Bernice Stokes chaperoning, students will have limited free time to explore Paris. Deep has made sure that students won't go wandering into the local McDonalds at any time during their visit.

"The only time that the students are by themselves, they are eating lunch or just snacking. We have told the students not to trust any street vendors," he said.

"It's a big disappointment because we were planning to go to the Hard Rock Café, and they are known for their hamburgers," Deep added.

Many products are made of beef, and there may be some confusion for students as to whether they know what foods those are. In a letter sent home to students and their families, titled "RE Paris Trip- Additional Information and Checklist," listed on page three under Important Note, were all of the foods that students can't eat that contain beef.

It also lists all of the safe foods that students are allowed to eat.

For students who eat a lot of meat, this trip is going to be especially hard.



Laura Kangas / The Shakerite

The marching band practices in preparation for their spring break trip to Paris.

"I don't know if I cannot eat beef for an entire week," said junior Zac Kramer. "It's going to be very hard."

Over the past couple of months, foot-and-mouth and mad cow disease have not only caused problems for the cattle industry of Europe. In some instances, hotels in England have reported 100 percent cancellations, as tourists fear contracting any type of disease.

The disease that was originally reported was foot-and-mouth disease, however the disease that has most people worried is mad cow disease.

Mad cow disease has been a problem in Great Britain since mid-1980s. The form of mad cow

disease that affects humans is the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), a neurological disorder with symptoms such as dementia, loss of motor control and eventual madness. More than 85 percent of CJD patients die within a year after their symptoms begin. This disease has been spreading by contaminated animal feed to herds all over Europe.

With a bacteria or a virus, scientists can either throw chemicals at it, or heat it to kill the infectious agents, but since the infected molecule in CJD isn't even alive, there is nothing scientists can do to stop it either in the slaughterhouse or in beef preparation.

## Science Olympiad advances to states

By Will Wemer  
Staff Reporter

A quarter drops, setting off a mouse trap, causing an electrical current to heat a piece of twine, burning a rope and dropping a weight, sending a ping-pong ball across the length of room 275. No, this isn't a rejected 16th century catapult. This is Mission Possible.

Mission Possible, an event in which sophomores Laura Coscarelli and Nate Emery compete, is one of 23 events in the Science Olympiad competition. Their seventh place finish in the event helped Shaker's Science Olympiad team finish second in the recent Northeast Ohio regional competition, qualifying the team for the upcoming state tournament in April in Columbus.

The group meets every Tuesday in room 275, and after five minutes often disperses throughout the science wing to prepare for competitions. The group also meets outside of school to study and socialize, creating a tight knit and close team.

Coscarelli, the president of Shaker Science Olympiad, believes that the team will easily improve on their 17th place perfor-

"In my six years of participation in Science Olympiad, this year has been the most successful as a team."

LAURA COSCARELLI  
president, Science  
Olympiad

mance last year at states.

"In my six years of participation in Science Olympiad, this year has been the most successful as a team," Coscarelli said.

Freshman Andrea Kutik, who has been involved with Olympiad for five years, took first place in the region in Science of Fitness, an event that deals with the maintenance of the human body. Kutik is enjoying the recent success of the team as well.

"The success at the recent competition is extremely exciting and rewarding to me as well as the team as a whole," Kutik said.

The achievement of the team was also seen, and embraced by the faculty advisers. Biology teacher Linda Loffler felt the hard work of the team was well rewarded.

"Our level of preparation was evident at regionals," Loffler said. "We did an awesome job."



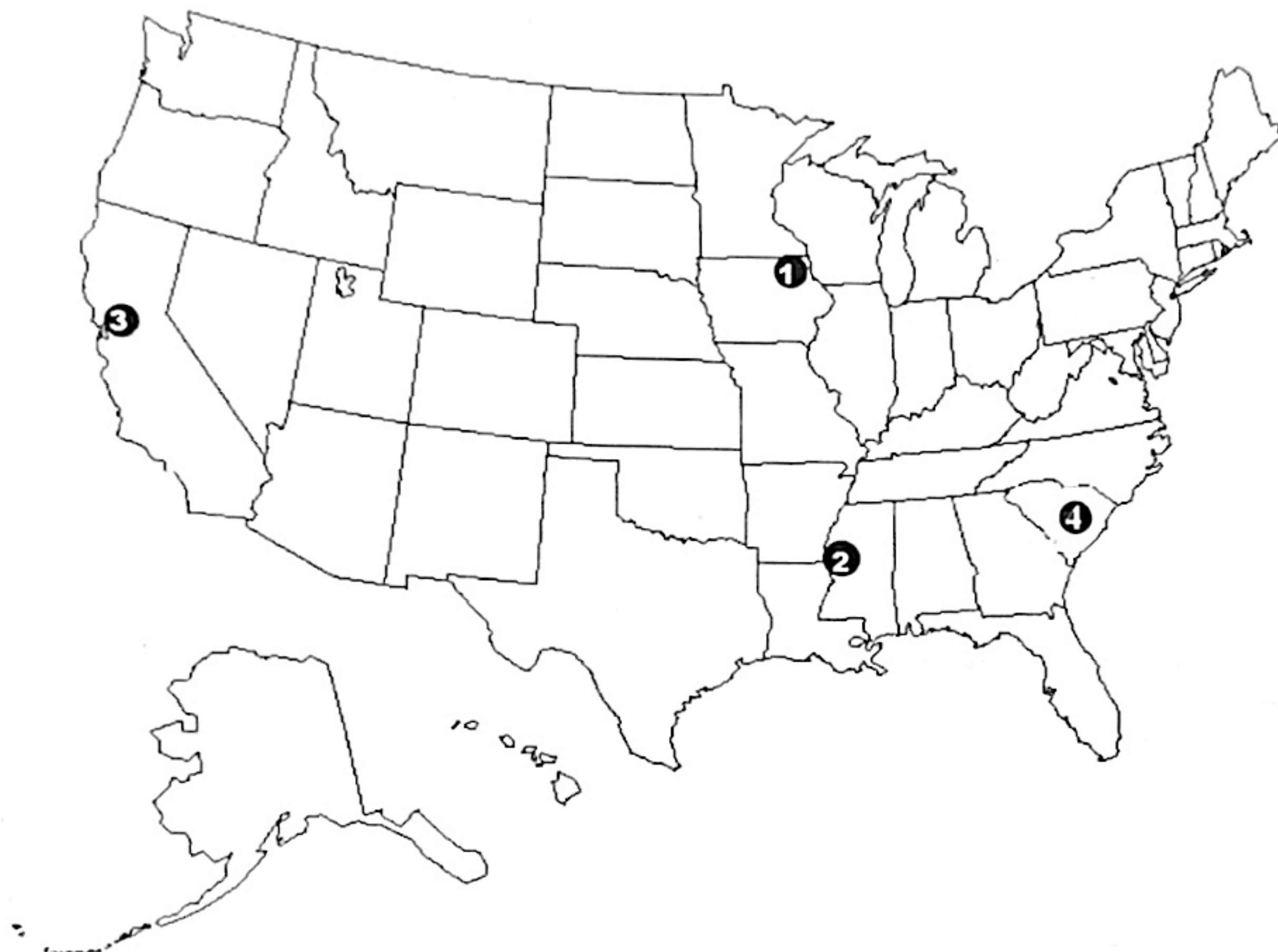
## news in the NATION

### 1 Uproars arise over lyrics

• Tipton, IA and Mishawaka, IN A teacher in Tipton resigned after superiors reprimanded her for letting students continue a project on Eminem. In Mishawaka, 250 of Penn High School's 1,100 students walked out to protest a near-total ban on music, which came about after a parent complained about the lyrics in the Shaggy song *It Wasn't Me*, which aired on school bus radio. (USA Today)

### 2 Motto required in schools

• Jackson, MS- Gov. Ronnie Musgrove has signed a law requiring public schools to display "In God We Trust" in classrooms, cafeterias, and auditoriums. The American Civil Liberties Union has threatened to bring suit. The group maintains that requiring a reference to God in public classrooms violates the constitutional guarantee of separation of church and state. (AP)



### 3 Teen sued for reporting threat

• Lancaster, CA- After 17-year old Kristina Tapia reported a threat by classmate David Belisle to school administrators, her parents were sued by Belisle's parents for slander. Before the suit was dismissed in Los Angeles County Court, they accrued nearly \$40,000 in legal expenses. Because of the incident, the California Assembly is considering legislation to give legal immunity to students who report campus threats. (AP)

### 4 Scout cookie sales prohibited

• Decatur, GA- Two groups of Girl Scouts were ticketed for selling girl scout cookies in a restaurant parking lot without a city permit. A local DeKalb county ordinance requires a permit for anyone soliciting in neighborhoods. After police Maj. Ron Slade received several complaints, he apologized and voided the tickets. (Plain Dealer)

Compiled by Joseph Tartakoff

## Heavy hallway traffic concerns faculty

HALLS  
FROM PAGE 1

point out how inappropriate their language is," Ashcraft wrote.

Athletic Director Susan Brown sees students lying to get passes as a problem.

"I know for a fact that students lie to teachers regarding the bathroom and go somewhere else," Brown wrote.

Comments on two surveys suggested the open campus policy was the cause of the problem.

It's perhaps not surprising to find that students and adults don't share an opinion about the hallways.

"There is no problem," said freshman Carnesha Bates. "[Security guards] are too uptight."

Students also have their own ways of getting by security.

"I always carry a crumpled piece of paper, and they never ask," sophomore Elissa Courtwright said.

Even those students who obtain legitimate passes don't always use them for the intended purpose.

"Say you're sick, get a pass to the nurse, and do whatever you want," sophomore Tyler Wadsworth said.

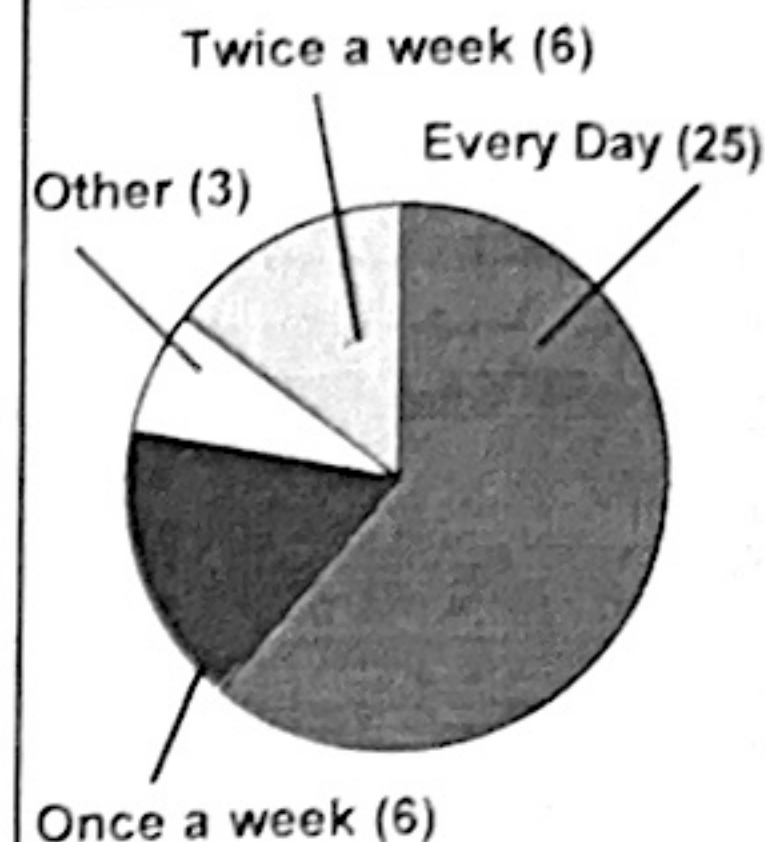
Journalism II students counted the number of students in the halls during classes Feb. 12-15. They stood at four locations around the school and tallied the number of students that walked past. In total, they counted 375 students passing through their locations during ninth period on Feb. 15.

Student behavior in the halls after school during conference period has also drawn the attention of adults.

"Students who hang around after school are especially disturbing. Often students will be in after school to take tests and they can't concentrate because of so much noise in the hall," Davis said.

Action has been taken to curb this problem. Students are now being sent to the Egress after school if they do not have somewhere to go.

### teacher VOICE



How often are your classes disturbed by students in the hallways?

Poll based on responses by 41 teachers gathered by Katherine Ekeberg and Liz Campbell.

Some teachers used the survey to offer solutions to the hallway problem.

Math teacher Allan Slawson tries to ignore the noise.

"When the halls are noisy, I close the door and keep teaching," he wrote.

"Hold teachers responsible for students in their classes. Enforce the rules. No students in the halls without a pass," marketing education teacher Mark Leimsieder suggested.

Math teacher Thomas Patrick said that students caught in the halls without a pass should be given a Saturday school.

Bott suggested "better training for security and consequences for tardies."

Mike Klima, district coordinator of safety, could not be reached for comment. Security personnel referred inquiries to Klima.

Griffith said that one solution is to redirect students away from classes when they are walking through the hall.

"It takes all of our cooperation... no one is looking to create problems," Griffith said.



### Friends Don't Watch Friends Fall Apart

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Center for Mental Health Services  
Child, Adolescent and Family Branch



## A new plan to integrate students

By Jennifer Broadbent  
News Co-editor

A gap has always existed between mainstream students and those in pull-out classes. Now students and staff have pulled together to bridge that gap.

"Our hopes are that at the high school all students will get a better understanding that every student is different and has something to offer," said Patti Munday, a special education teacher.

"All students can enjoy the same things in different ways," she said.

At the first meeting of Project Support, the group working to realize that goal, 15 mainstream students and 15 special education students gathered for a pizza party.

"We made pizza and talked to each other. Just getting to know each other," said Blake Chapman, a freshman special education student.

The mother of special ed student Robert Hamovitch, is involved with organizing Project Support.

"Robbie was involved in an integrated type of program before. It was very helpful for him," she said.

"I was surprised there was a lack of this type of program for special ed kids at Shaker [when we moved to Shaker two years ago]," Hamovitch added.



Chapman

"I'm looking forward to meeting the high schoolers and getting to meet new people and friends"

**BLAKE CHAPMAN**  
freshman

Currently Project Support is looking for interested students to join.

"Mrs. Lamalfa told me about it when she substituted for my chemistry class," said Mike Koch, a junior.

Carol Lamalfa, substitute and mother of a Shaker student, helped to start up Project Support, which was given a \$400 grant from the PTO to underwrite activities such as their first pizza party. The party was Tuesday, March 20.

Finch wanted to ensure that all students would be able to participate regardless of the cost.

Project Support is a statewide organization but the Shaker group plans on changing its name, which will be chosen by club members at some future time.

"I'm looking forward to meeting the high schoolers and getting to meet new people and friends," said Chapman.

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## 'rite ARTIST



Rick Jennings/The Shakerite

## We've had enough with assembly-line entertainment

Every year the coveted academy award is presented to an actor or actress associated with the formulaic Hollywood industry of film-making. A recipe of routine characters and plot development with a splash of stale dialogue and a hint of cliché.

This year is no different in that the best picture includes such trite tales as *Erin Brokovich* and recycled films like *Gladiator*. While Javier Bardem in *Before Night Falls* was nominated for best actor he was immediately passed over by the academy because the movie is largely unknown and extremely well done. What has happened to awarding films for originality and creativity?

Now it seems the Oscar is given to whomever has the deepest pockets. And that is usually the same producer who writes the same successful story line in his next eight movies. It's like *Gidget Goes to Hawaii* again and again and again. How

many this year's *There's Something About Mary* do we have to see previews for while viewing the latest Hollywood rendition of high school, cheerleading and football?

Independents remain refuge and a rebellion against the system, but they are few and far between. What's worse is that the film industry isn't the only medium afflicted with the creative void of big industry — music and theater are also fellow sufferers.

Back in 1982, when MTV was first juggling the new medium of music television, they were responsible for raising no-name independent and European bands to billboard stardom. Now, all they are responsible for is raising Britney Spears' tank top a little higher to expose yet another inch of her midriff.

No longer is this network seen as a forum for music enthusiasts and local band heroes. Instead it features cloned boy and girl singing troupes, each set with the same cast of characters but without a set of drums in sight. Despite their homogeneity, their stage presence could leave room for originality... yet even in their performances they are unimpressively clad in the same uniform of something leather, something blonde, something sparkly and something pawned.

Even the word *artist* has taken on a whole new meaning. While once referring to a human being who created something, who took their own experience and transferred it into craft of song or stage or paintbrush, the new Christina and JC-esque artist is merely the ventriloquist's tool. Gone is the day when singers wrote their own lyrics or, deity forbid, their own tunes. Gone is the day when dancers designed their own choreography, or magazines were graced with photographs, not airbrushings, of human beings hand selected for the wave of their dyed hair and the glint of their computer-whitened teeth.

Today's stars are not artists- they are employees. They create nothing, they inspire nothing, they require nothing. They are sugar-dipped and rolled in sequins, and their foundation and hair dye look damn good under the lights. There are real artists somewhere, performing and living and giving everything for their art, but you won't hear from them. The fast food of music, the happy meal-short skirt-fries-and-coke-on-the-side-artists are clogging up all the airwaves.

Along Times Square and New York City's midsection, Broadway itself is also suffering from the blight of assembly-line entertainment. 37 works of theater, if you can call them all that, are presently headlining in the world's most prestigious theaters. Of these 37, 10 are musical revivals, three are Disney animation films brought to life with humans in gaudy costumes, two are novels (*Jane Eyre* and *Tom Sawyer*, literary classics) set to music, one slot is given to Riverdance and two are movies turned plays (*Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *The Full Monty*). There once was a time when patrons complained that theater's most prestigious venue was dominated by Andrew Lloyd Weber. Now, only *The Phantom of the Opera* remains alive under the marquis lights, while the other theaters are seeing their stages subjected to the trappings of plagiarized novels and cartoon characters put to song under the guise of real theater. Broadway was once sacred ground—now Seussical the Musical reigns supreme.

And as Seussical the Musical, Britney "Backstreet" Timberlake and *There's Something About Erin the Gladiator* steal the lights, camera and action of our culture, those of us who appreciate and recognize originality will continue to speak up. We will look for and support the real artists who are out there, harder to find without bright lights and make-up, Hollywood and MTV, but far more real and definitely worth the search.

## The TOP 10

## Things to do this year on Spring Break

10. Study for AP exams (HAHAHAHA!)
9. Look through brochures of places your parents wouldn't let you go to
8. Jump into a swim suit and just pretend it's warm
7. Find a hiding place because reports cards will soon be mailed
6. "Sunbathe" under a floor lamp on your living room carpet
5. Count how many of your friends are out of town
4. Watch "MTV Spring Break" over and over
3. Attempt to sleep through the entire thing
2. Visit a college... and see how deserted it is
1. Catch up on a little bit of reading (*Maxim* is it?)



## Professional wrestling needs a union

### • Overworked entertainers need more support

By Rob Rains  
Opinion Co-editor

Owen Hart plunged 76 feet to his death in May of 1999 live on Pay-Per-View. The World Wrestling Federation decided to continue the show, with Vince McMahon later stating that "Owen would have wanted it that way."

Late last year, Hart's family won a civil lawsuit against WWF for an undisclosed amount of money. Hart, under contractual obligation to the World Wrestling Federation performed the stunt with no health insurance plan or guarantee of safety.

Also late last year Bret Hart, Owen's brother, suffered four concussions in a span of two weeks that caused him intense pain and even inability to read for a short while. While injured, Hart was released from his employer, World Championship Wrestling, under the grounds of violating his contract by not performing in over three months.

If this had been a regular nine to five job, Hart could of had a tremendous lawsuit on his hands, but it isn't, so he doesn't. Individuals pushed to their limits by avaricious promoters in order to

collect whatever meager paycheck they can is all a part of the wrestling spectacle.

Everyone can agree that wrestling is something different all together. *Diamond Dallas Page* refers to it as a type of "full contact" ballet.

Regardless of title, huge risks are performed on a daily basis all for the build up of the next Pay-Per-View "blockbuster."

Wrestlers are chewed up and spit out every day, by promoters like McMahon.

Late last week World Wrestling Federation CEO Linda McMahon announced the purchase of fledgling rival WCW and with the recent demise of Extreme Championship Wrestling (ECW) the WWF now holds a professional wrestling monopoly, leaving wrestlers with no leeway in terms of negotiating a contract.

"That's life," exclaimed "Big Sexy" Kevin Nash from his official website. Nash, reportedly making somewhere near \$2 million a year under WCW, will have his contract bought out by AOL Time Warner.

With a wrestling monopoly on the rise, the time is now for a union to be created.

Such individuals as "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan and Bret "The Hitman" Hart have spoken on unionizing before, but have yet to act on it. Hart's latest column for the *Calgary Sun* newspaper discusses the possibility of a union and claims that it could bring the business onto a more level playing field.

It's not so simple, though. Being written out of a storyline is that easy-soap operas do it all the time and wrestling would be no different. If workers like Stone Cold or The Rock stood behind such a cause, a union could succeed. Then again, maybe this is wishful thinking.

If a wrestling union were started, it could ensure a better future for its members after the mats are put away and the cameras are turned off. Wrestlers make a great amount of sacrifice for only a short amount of time, leaving the business like most of them came in, with nothing.

**Huge risks are performed on a daily basis all for the build up of the next Pay-Per-View "blockbuster."**

*"I don't think (Eminem's music) is offensive."*

**KATIE SHARP**  
sophomore



*Shaker*  
**SPEAKS**

We asked Shaker students in the hallways about their opinion of rapper Eminem's music. For more thoughts, see Debra Kamin's page seven editorial.

*"There's no place in music for that (stuff)."*

**MATT LESEUR**  
junior



*"No, (Eminem's music) is just to entertain."*

**BEN HABER**  
freshman



*"I think (Eminem) should be able to express himself any way he wants to."*

**JOY ALLEN**  
junior



*"His lyrics may be harsh but that's his way of expressing himself to society."*

**REHNUMA ANIS**  
junior



## Pro-choicer stereotypes are incorrect

### • Abortion advocates face unfair prejudices

By Liz Campbell  
Staff Reporter

Abortion is one of the most controversial issues in the country. I am a pro-choice advocate. There are many myths about pro-choice supporters. The biggest misconception is that pro-choice supporters are also advocates of abortion. This is not the case. Rather, I am a proponent of a woman's right to choose whether or not she has an abortion. What matters it is that the option exists.

Another myth is that pro-choice supporters are promiscuous and irresponsible, and only support abortion because it may assist their immoral lifestyle.

This is an unfounded generalization as the statistics in this article will show.

The last major misconception is that pro-choice promoters are not moral or ethical, and hate children. I would rather have a child live a happy life with parents who are able to provide for

him than a life of misfortune with a poor mother who is not ready to raise a child.

Adoption, like abortion, is not an easy process or a simple solution. Many ramifications, both physical and emotional, accompany it.

Some women are not ready to be mothers, whether they raise the baby or not.

Teenage pregnancy is a forbidden topic in many households. As much as American citizens would like to pretend that teen sex does not occur, we all know it does. Though it is obviously risky, the fact is that people make mistakes.

An unprepared teenage girl taking care of a baby could ruin the life of both the baby and the girl, and most likely the mother of the girl. Who will quit their job to take care of the baby? Who will be the recipient of caustic comments?

The girl and her mother are both subordinated and given a heavier burden.

Compared to many countries, the United States has limited abortion rights. In several developing nations, such as Ukraine, abortion is used as birth control. This is wrong.

I do not support this viewpoint, and neither do a majority of the pro-choice supporters.

In Ukraine, the government will not pay for contraceptives, but they will pay for abortions. Abortion should be used only after careful consideration and research into other options.

There are statistics showing that abortion is not overused, or the privilege abused.

Almost 90 percent of all abortions occur in the first trimester of pregnancy, and only about one percent take place at 21 weeks or later, according to the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL).

I strongly support the pro-choice side of this debate.

A young girl should not be forced to live with a mistake or accident she and her boyfriend made for the rest of her life. A mother should not be made a grandmother so early.

If a situation requires abortion, any woman should have the right to choose.

***I would rather have a child live a happy life with parents who are able to provide for him than a life of misfortune with a poor mother who is not ready to raise a child.***

## Shaker's female athletes deal with adversity both on and off the field



**Erin Forquer**  
Guest Inter

I've spent the past four years at Shaker playing sports almost all year round, from varsity soccer in the fall, to varsity lacrosse in the spring. I suppose this makes me a seasoned female stu-

dent athlete here. It is very important in this school to put the female before athlete, because let's face it, male athletics and female athletics are just not the same thing, so we might as well emphasize the difference.

When I made varsity women's lacrosse my freshman year I felt we were a special team. We had nice uniforms only a few years old. Three undefeated seasons later, we have those same uniforms, and now the letters and numbers are hanging off. Although we were promised new uniforms years ago, every year it

never fails that the men's basketball team gets new warm-ups and shoes, and the football team gets an entirely new wardrobe. Granted, they pay for their clothes with fundraisers, but for years we have been trying to get fundraisers identical to the boys' approved and have not been successful.

But the most important thing to our lacrosse team isn't how nice our uniforms and equipment are, but rather the support and recognition that we receive from the school and athletic department. Especially for our coaches,

who have led an undefeated team for seven years.

The fact is, hardly anyone on our team even knows who the athletic directors at our school are, except Sue Brown. She has been the only one who has given us support, and she is only one of five athletic directors. I don't want to degrade our athletic department, but certain decisions that the athletic department makes are just ridiculous. Most female athletic teams are given two hours a week in the weight room, at the most inconvenient times possible. We are regularly

kicked out of the weight room and forced to lift after practice with up to 75 other female athletes, even though we are in season and inconvenienced.

Now, before you write me off as some whiny angry female jock, understand this: I don't think that anything should be taken away from the male athletic teams, whether it be funding or recognition. I'm in awe of so many male athletes, but I'm also in awe of so many of my own teammates. They deserve the right to be recognized and supported as much as any male here.





Alex  
Madorsky  
Staff Reporter

## Who's trash?

Recently a little birdie told me that *The Shakerite's* opinion page has become too political, so I have decided to discuss a topic that is even more unpopular (if that is possible). Although the mainstream media is blissfully ignorant of this issue (they prefer to perpetrate the mythological stereotype that almost all Americans are middle class), in my recent travels I have discovered Shaker Heights High School students are quite conscious of class phenomena. On my trips to Brooklyn Recreation Center to follow our state champion hockey squad, I was alarmed to discover that many Shaker students call all suburbs to the west "white trash," despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of these folks are resolutely middle class and are much more representative of the average American than the Caucasian bourgeoisie of Shaker Heights High School. Students even went so far as to wave white trash bags in the air, a fool's gambit that confused insolence with cleverness.

Class hatred is extremely irrational, yet it permeates our school. Perhaps one of the dirtiest secrets of Shaker Heights is that race relations are so (allegedly) excellent because our white students have a more politically correct target of hate: white "trash." Although these intolerant youth have been appropriately guilt tripped out of overt expressions of racism, their inane hatred of those less fortunate than they persists. It is amazing how superior some students fancy themselves to be because they are inheritors to wealth they had no part in creating. Just because mommy and daddy can afford to buy you cellular phones and designer clothing doesn't mean you're better than those who must live without. Although it is these privileged students who are atypical rather than the hated "trash," some feel that anyone who does not adopt an elitist, decadent lifestyle is innately inferior. This loathing of the average American citizen is certainly dysfunctional, if not misanthropic. Then again, in the city where

Underneath a thin veneer of liberalism in the high school, there is a molten hot core of reaction. Only a reactionary could hate a fellow human because his father's salary is not in the upper six figures. The duplicity is jaw-dropping. I propose that those guilty of such pomposity and snobbery are the true "white trash" within culture and society. Money doesn't equal class. I'm no SpongeBob Square Pants, nor a Harvard trained theologian, but I believe it is Jesus who said that the meek shall inherit the Earth.

I can only hope and pray that it will not be the intellectually incompetent, idly rich youth of America who do so.

# Eminem's music is distasteful and offensive

• It's time for the public to speak up and take a stand against the lines Eminem is crossing with his music, his lyrics and his conduct

By Debra Kamin  
Opinion Co-editor

27-year-old Marshall Mathers, better known as rapper Eminem, is an entertainer who projects a message that is offensive, disgusting and dangerous.

Though he may have great musical talent, whatever gift residing within Eminem's bleach-blond head is lost amid a deranged concept of what makes acceptable expression.

Eminem's rhythms are enticing, pulsing from the radio until you can't forget them. Yet the public seems oblivious to the fact that his songs are hateful tirades set to catchy tempos that invade your brain and keep you humming mindlessly along.

Perhaps, though, we have noticed the atrocity. Perhaps we just don't seem to care. A *Los Angeles Times* review of Eminem's newest album, *The Marshall Mathers LP*, deducted half a star from its four-star rating "because of the recurring homophobia." *Entertainment Weekly*, in an analysis of the same album, awarded an A- for "overall artistry" and a D+ for "moral responsibility." Given that Eminem's four Grammy Awards and cozy seat atop the Billboard chart have yet to provoke meaningful criticism and protest, I will ask the question:

Does it really matter what one says, as long as a nice beat and some cool effects accompany it? Let me offer these lyrics as you consider your response:

*My little sister's birthday, she'll remember me  
For a gift I had 10 of my boys take her virginity  
(Mmm-mm-mmm!)*  
*And bitches know me as a horny-ass freak  
Their mother wasn't raped, I ate*

*her p'ssy while she was 'sleep  
Pissy-drunk, thrown' up in the urinal*

*(You f---in' homo!)*  
*That's what I said at my dad's funeral*

— "Amityville"

Pretty good rhymes. Nice rhythm. I bet the video's real sweet. Unfortunately, the lyrics are too obscene to be printed unabridged in this newspaper.

Now, I am not a squeamish girl. I don't consider myself old-fashioned or overly uptight. But mes-

sages such as the one in "Amityville" make me sick. Heaping accolades on a creator of music who, according to MTV Online, enjoys "punching hookers in the mouth" and whose song, "Kim," uses the gagging sounds of his estranged wife as backup vocals to the rapped details of her fantasized murder, goes beyond crossing the line.

No matter how much a listener may like Eminem's music, what he says can't be condoned. If you listen to him uncritically, you are accepting his words. I ask the Shaker community, which claims to be liberal and open-minded, another question: Would you pay money to attend a white su-

premacist rally where messages against gays, Native Americans, blacks or any other minority were being broadcast? Doubtful.

Would you buy literature that proclaimed it acceptable to make women subordinate, and to brag about desires to kill them? Or, if you were in the hallway between classes and heard someone eagerly recount the gang rape of his 10-year-old sister, in

language not dissimilar to

Eminem's, would you join in the conversation? I hope you would instead call in some authorities, or at least walk away. I know you wouldn't fork over money to hear more. So why are

we paying money for Eminem?

Sure, you're not supposed to take the violence so seriously. Sure, it's just a ploy for attention or a publicity stunt. Sure, we're just supposed to listen and hum along without giving heed to the hate escaping from our lips. Enjoy the show, and just don't think too much.

We listen to the beats, we admire the glossy magazine covers,

we applaud MTV for canceling programming for a few hours to run anti-violence public-service announcements and then don't think twice when TRL returns and Eminem spews out some more neatly arranged hatred. The easier it is for us to close our eyes and listen, the harder it is for us to open our ears and react.

And of course it's so easy to ignore violent language these days. Just about as easy as it was for the community in Santee, California to ignore Andy Williams when he threatened to shoot up his high school before he brought in a gun on March 7 and did just that. Take the kid seriously? Pay attention? No way—they all thought it was just a joke, a publicity stunt, a ploy for attention.

Studies have shown that children who watch violent television are more prone to act aggressively than are children who don't. How is listening to violent music any different in terms of influencing the behavior of the public? We know our media icons affect our children. They emulate Britney with her midriff-baring tops and every N'Sync-ing Backstreet boy with their moves and bleached hair.

But when girls start talking about killing their mothers and little boys brag about getting head from Christina Aguilera, are we going to worry? Shouldn't be worrying now? It's time to turn off the hate and take a good look at where we are in America. Violence is violence, no matter how nicely it's marketed. We've got enough of it in our society. We just don't need to sing along to it, as well.

QUIT STEALING  
MY TIME BY  
WASTING YOURS



10-second  
tick-off

WHY IS EVERYONE  
IN SCHOOL SO  
CAMERA SHY?

First it was the hallways, now it's in the library. I go in there to get some help or get some studying done before I go home and all I can hear is loud, obnoxious voices filling the room. Then when I need to use a computer they are all filled up. People sit in clusters (just like in the hallway) around a computer, looking at some website with video game codes or hot rods, making comments, and I can't concentrate. Hey folks, you wanna waste your time? Fine, but don't waste mine.

C IS FOR COOKIE, BUT  
NO COOKIES FOR ME

Ohhh, the joy of Girl Scout cookies. Samoas, Trefoils, Tagalongs. It seems extremely unfair how every year Lent falls right around the time when those delectable little cookies arrive aplenty at our doors. I am forced to watch in agony as my fellow mates scarf down sleeve after sleeve of Thin Mints, all the while trying my darndest to cling to that painful resolution of NO SWEETS. Oh, man, what a rotten time of year to be Christian!

Why is everybody in this school so camera shy? Come on now. We all know the only reason that we buy yearbooks is to see how many times one can get their mug in the book. Well, how can you get into the yearbook (or newspaper) without us clicking that shutter button? Hello? And we all know that in June, when we get the yearbooks, we all complain about how the same people are in the book year after year after year. Hummmm, I wonder how that happened?



# What Lies Ahead

By Julie Redline  
and Lia Silver  
Centerpiece Co-editors

"College is not for everyone," said Paul Sutliff, a special education teacher and editor of *The Berea Research Report*. "Think about a world without tradesmen. I have a nephew who studied to be an electrician while he was in high school. He became an apprentice, and then discovered he would learn more in the Navy and joined up. I am extremely proud of him and his progress in his field."

This attitude is a common one in the United States. After all, only 21.9 percent of all Americans have a bachelor's degree, according to the U.S. Census.

At SHHS, however, college campuses across the country are the destinations of an average of 88 percent of the graduating seniors each year. This atmosphere of high-achievement is a positive force for the majority of students, but it can also have negative effects.

The expectation that all students must go to college comes from all directions.

Freshman Adam Gall said that Shaker counselors and parents put a lot of pressure on students to go to college. He has not yet felt any pressure from peers, but Shaker seniors tell a different story.

Catherine Schaberg said that most of the pressure that she experiences comes from other students.

"The pressure doesn't come from Shaker, it comes from parents and friends," Schaberg said. "Some people feel that the name [of the college] is everything. There can be a lot of competition between students over what colleges they get into."

Senior Maya Bakshani said that college should not be the assumed path for all students.

"I feel pressure from the whole school to go to college," Bakshani said. "The attitude is, 'You go to Shaker, you go to college.'"

After graduation, Bakshani is hoping to spend time in Americorps in or in the workforce before eventually attending college. She feels that she "needs a break" from the conventional classroom environment.

Guidance counselor Robert Annandale agrees that other options should be offered to students who are not ready, or never will be ready, to attend college.

"There is a fair amount of shame at this high school about not going to college," Annandale said. "Students wind up torn -- that they should be focused on college. But four more years of sitting in a classroom might not work for everyone."

Annandale is the coordinator of the Career Prep Tri-Heights Consortium, which focuses on careers in-

cluding cosmetology and auto-mechanics. This program—a joint effort between Shaker Heights, Cleveland Heights-University Heights and Warrensville City Schools—offers job training, occupational work experience and career guidance.

Cleveland Heights hosts the most extensive section of the program, offering industrial technology and cosmetology, along with other vocational options. Shaker Heights sponsors DECA, which is a marketing education class, and Business and Cooperative Education, which includes courses in keyboarding, accounting, business and marketing. Warrensville Heights offers a graphic arts program, which Annandale said is rarely attended by Shaker students.

Kasia Collins, a Shaker graduate of the class of 2000, attended the cosmetology program at Cleveland Heights High School.

Collins said that the Career Prep program provided excellent training. Although she didn't pass the state board licensing exam on the first try, she hopes to retake the exam and someday work as a beautician.

"I was struggling the first two years of high school," Collins said. "Mr. Annandale got me back on balance and gave me good recommen-

Ready or not, here college comes. But is college really for everyone? Centerpiece explores post-high school options.

dations for the program." "Sometimes it is clear that the student is not thriving, but these students are dealt with one on one," Annandale said.

Although Annandale said that there are "an unbelievably small number of students who do not go to college," the actual numbers suggest otherwise.

Guidance counselor Jeff Lewis said that last year an unusually low 70 percent of graduating seniors planned to attend college as of June 2000. The majority of the remaining 30 percent came from the bottom half of the class, but five of them came from the upper 50 percent.

Regardless of where students rank in their class, Annandale points out that success can come in many forms.

"I have seen kids who are discouraged here that go into auto mechanics and go on to thrive in what they do," Annandale said.

Despite the pressure that so many young adults feel to go to college, the experts agree: college is not for everyone.

"People have dreams and goals. Those who achieve them do what they can to meet them," Sutliff said. "The thing to remember is nobody's goals are exactly the same as another's, and that is a matter of design."

## HOW DOES SHAKER MEASURE UP?

21.9 percent of American adults have a Bachelor's degree or higher

88 percent of Shaker students were accepted and enrolled in colleges in 2000

12 million Americans were enrolled in public universities in 1996

27 Shaker students enrolled in Ohio public universities in 2000

3.2 million Americans were enrolled in private colleges and universities in 1996

172 Shaker students enrolled in schools other than Ohio public universities in 2000

compiled by Julie Redline and Lia Silver, information from www.census.gov and SHHS

## Is college your cup of tea? POINT

At Shaker Heights High School, great pride is taken in the number of students who are admitted to our nation's top universities, as credit is given where credit is due. Names are published in newsletters, statistics are printed and our administration gives its wholehearted approval. For many in Shaker, college is looked on as the holy grail—something so often spoken about, there is virtually no option not to seek it.

At Shaker, it's clear that the faculty and staff put as much emphasis as possible on the importance of a college education. Classes are designed to prepare students to compete academically with the most competent students in the country. Clubs are designed to provide you with that little boost on your application that a kid from Bedford may not have. Program planning helps students track their schedules both to challenge themselves and to impress admissions boards with AP Statistics, Modern Euro and BC Calculus.

But what about the students who aren't planning on college as a post-high school endeavor? What options are available to them in this system, other than steering them into a two- or four-year program?

Clearly college isn't for everyone. Although it should be an option made as accessible as possible, many students have future plans other than attending a university.

For starters, what about culinary school? Are students offered classes in Shaker that would encourage them to explore this option? If a Shaker student wants to become a beautician, or a nail technician, does our system promote these options as valid and respectable pursuits?

If a student desires to learn a trade, such as carpentry, or wants to become an electrician, is the option realistic? Shaker doesn't offer a vocational program. Instead students are sent via bus to Cleveland Heights, where they are given limited choices in vocational preparation. Why aren't these classes offered here at our own high school? Is our administration so caught up in the game of prestigious college admissions they don't realize some students in our high school would benefit from these programs? Are we worried that offering vocational classes would tarnish our academic credibility?

The issue here is not replacing academics. The issue is supplementing Shaker's curriculum with some other options that are essential to our student body. In addition to adding another calculus option next year, why not add a class on automotive repair. Our parents pay taxes for us to learn as much as possible while at Shaker, but our learning has been in some ways limited. Many seniors have never had the chance to explore other post-graduate options.

Valuing our school's diversity means also acknowledging the many goals students have a right to set for themselves. Who are we to decree that going to college defines you as a successful citizen? Is that the only message that we want our district to send?

-Marianne Cronin



## ...Yes, college is for me COUNTERPOINT

At Shaker Heights High School we take pride in our high rate of college acceptance, our many National Merit scholars and our dedicated and involved students. There is nothing wrong with studying, striving and succeeding in high school in an effort to reach the next echelon of education—college. Gaining acceptance to college is an outstanding accomplishment. While it is not the only road to travel in life, it's certainly a good place to begin the journey.

We should be pleased that our teachers, counselors and administrators apply so much effort to preparing students for higher education. It's our reputation as an academically rigorous and challenging school that plays a key role in the admissions process for some of our students. Without national acclaim and recognition, many of those hoping for that invitation to enroll on April 1 would find their dreams of academia dashed as some other student with the same last name, ethnicity and GPA received that desirable position because they attended a more renowned school.

Nevertheless, Shaker does offer a diversified curriculum. We have Work and Family Life classes, business classes and the option of attending vocational classes in Cleveland Heights, our sister suburb. Just because we may have more calculus classes than auto repair courses doesn't mean students don't have the option to take such courses or that we are at fault because we encourage the four-year college route. The argument that Shaker does not offer training in these fields is erroneous. Obviously Shaker values vocational training, or the district wouldn't include the option in its curriculum. Each student is asked what his or her post-graduate plans are if they do not include college.

It is true that college might not be for everyone. But what's wrong with steering undecided students in that direction? Often times 18-year-olds are unsure of their career goals, and college is a fine atmosphere for development and discovery of not only those goals but also who you are. While technical training is a reasonable way to educate, a liberal arts education provides a balance of knowledge from various subjects, and this allows the student more freedom in choosing the right life path. So what's so corrupt about our school encouraging all of its students to strive for a college acceptance letter?

Absolutely nothing.

-Anahid Thompson



# Shaker wants a new pair of shoes!

By Christian Ward  
Staff Reporter

March 26, 2001. Fourth period, third floor men's bathroom. Two boys have locked themselves in a stall to play craps.

Second period, Egress. Two boys engage in Tunk, a card game requiring \$1 from each player for each hand.

After school, 3:15p.m. The hallway is clearing out, and a card game unfolds, conducted by a group of males for money.

Sound familiar? Here at Shaker, gambling of all kinds is not hard to find. Why is gambling popular? Maybe the adrenaline rush experienced after a big win is the attraction. Or perhaps boredom dictates behavior. Either way, from cards to dice to sports bets and basketball brackets, gambling exists in spite of school rules forbidding it.

"I have not caught any students gambling," said Mike Klima, coordinator of security for the district. "But I have heard of guards finding gambling in bathrooms and."

"When kids feel the urge to gamble, they will gamble," said a member of the security team who did not wish to be identified.

Most of the card and dice games involve bets of about \$2 and can be started by anyone. "Every day of every week I play Tunk, my game of choice," said senior Mark Burden.

According to the Students Rights and Responsibilities handbook, "a student shall not

engage in or promote games of chance, place a bet, or risk anything of value on school grounds..."

Many students do not abide by this rule.

"Interestingly enough, it seems to be mostly the African-American students who are caught gambling in school," said a member of the security team. "Since I've been here, I have never caught a white student gambling."

Contrary to this security guard's experience, numerous white students admit to their participation in gambling at one time or another at school. Junior Dave Hausman says his betting takes place out of school. "Betting on the NCAA with friends, over \$200 can exchange hands," Hausman said.

Losing such bets might not be the only negative outcome.

"You could get three to five days [for gambling,]" Assistant Principal John Addison said. "That's if you are caught and that was the only thing going on, but if an argument was sparked off of it, you could get more."

Most adults interviewed for this story said they were opposed to gambling.

"At the last school I worked at, a student was killed over a poker game," said a teacher who declined identification.

Although it may start as a casual form of entertainment, gambling can become an addiction. "Once he/she is able to realize



Here are some Shaker students trying their hand at gambling at the high school.

that he/she is dependent on a substance, a person has little control over it," said Dr. Karen Tushman, school psychologist.

Researchers have suggested that most serious gamblers began wagering in their teens. According to *Psychology Today*, "One in every four American women and one in eight American men can be expected to gamble who started as teens."

Mr. Mitchell's AP US History

class is participating in a seemingly innocent pool for the NCAA tournament. "We all put in a dollar and we're probably just going to use the money for food for our review session," said junior Joanna Weinland.

The need to gamble can become a compulsion. "I participate anywhere," Burden said, "if I can get into a classroom, senior lounge, and any hallways that cameras can't see me."

## Are you a compulsive gambler?

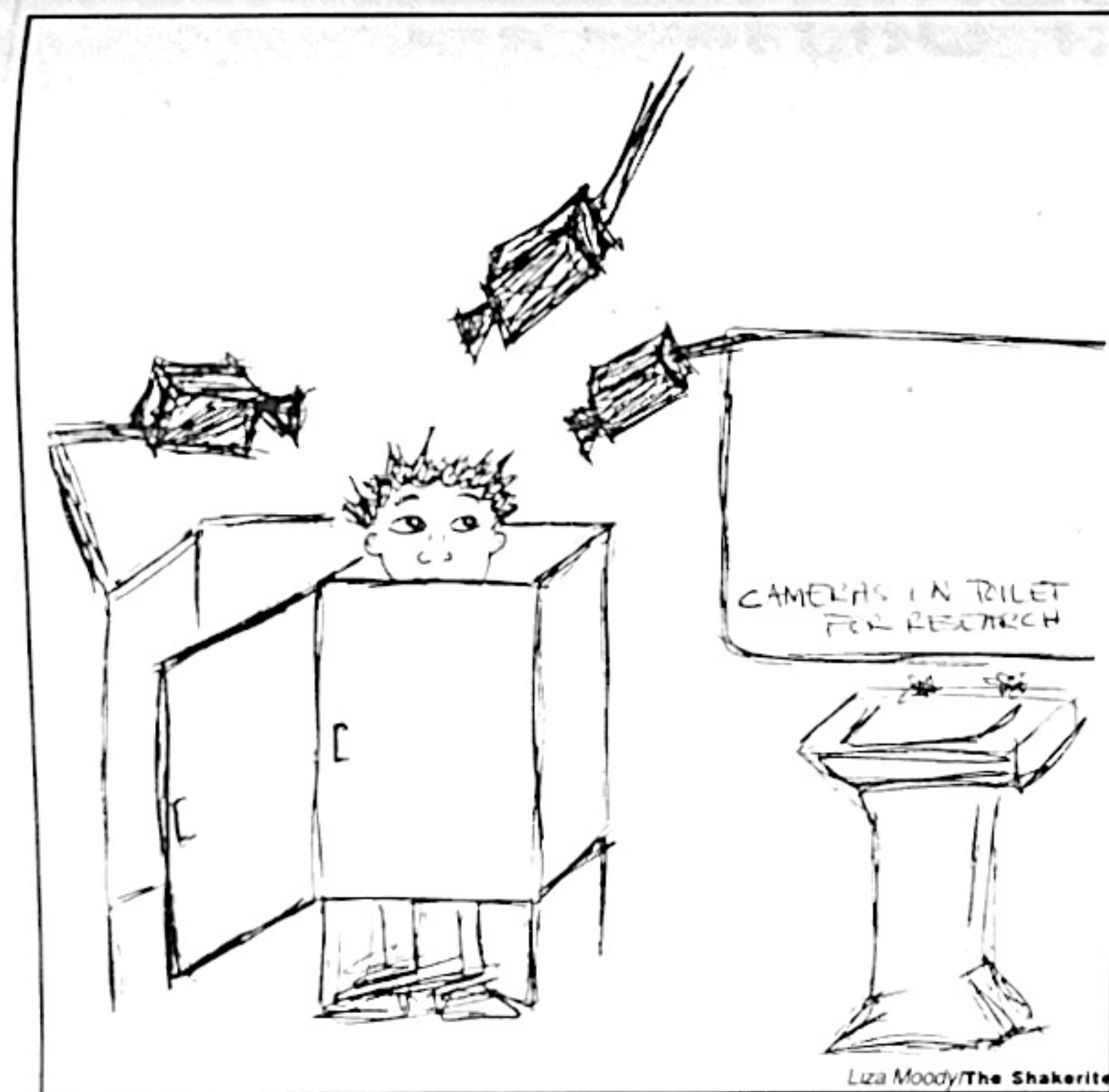
Take this quiz and find out!

1. Did you ever lose time from work or school due to gambling?
2. Have you ever gambled to escape worry or trouble?
3. Did gambling affect your reputation?
4. Have you ever felt remorse after gambling?
5. Did you ever gamble to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
6. Did gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
7. After losing did you feel that you must return as soon as possible and win back your losses?
8. Did gambling make you careless of the welfare of yourself and your family?
9. Did you often gamble until your last dollar was gone?
10. Do arguments, disappointments or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?
11. Did gambling ever cause you difficulty in sleeping?

Most compulsive gamblers will answer yes to at least six of these questions.

-compiled by Liza Moody  
from gamblersanonymous.org

## Smile, you're on candid camera



• Students were alarmed by a false sign about cameras in the boys bathroom

By Rebecca Wolff  
Feature Co-Editors

The stalls are empty. Parents are terrified. What's going on? Boys are refusing to go to the bathroom. There have even been reports of accidents during class from boys who just couldn't hold it anymore. All because of one phrase. "Cameras in toilets are for research only."

Who would have thought that a one-sentence sign could cause such an uproar? OK, maybe the situation isn't this extreme. According to students, a type-set sign bearing that phrase appeared in the boys' bathroom near the cafeteria approximately three weeks ago. The sign is

glued to the bathroom mirror and almost unnoticeable. Approximately one-inch long and a quarter-inch tall, it is fixed to the mirror with adhesive.

Mike Nau, a sophomore, is aware of the sign and he is all in

favor of it. "I'm happy to contribute to the ever expanding scientific inquiry," Nau said.

Assistant Principal John Addison claimed to know nothing about cameras in the bathroom.

"I wasn't aware of [the sign]. That

doesn't sound like something we'd have to do," he said.

When informed about the sign, Addison entered the boys' restroom to investigate. Once spotted, the sign was removed,

as Addison and math teacher Tom Patrick promptly removed the sign by using Patrick's pocket knife. Both men deduced that the sign was the work of a prankster.

Students concurred with their assessment.

"It's a joke," said Kym Wright, a sophomore.

Sophomore Dan Rosenbaum was shocked to learn of the sign.

"I'd like to think [cameras] wouldn't be in [the bathroom]," said Rosenbaum. "I'd choose to not use the bathroom if there were cameras."

Shaker boys can rest easy, however.

Addison said that although there are cameras elsewhere in the school, there are none in the restrooms. Besides, he said, "If we put a camera up, there wouldn't be a sign."

"I'm happy to contribute to the ever expanding scientific inquiry."

MIKE NAU  
sophomore

## Ping pong balls and mice in the halls

Have you ever been walking down the hall and you hear part of a conversation and you think, *what in the world?* These are a few of our favorite hallway quotes from the past month.

"I can't go out with you on Saturday, I'm getting my nose-hairs trimmed"

"I'll give you this hat for \$15"  
"I'll beat you for free!"

"I got chased down the hall by a mouse. It jumped on my backpack"

"someone upwind smells"  
"i like ping pong balls!"



# What would you do for a pair of the new Jordans?

By **Meredith Edwards**  
Staff Reporter

"The guy at Footlocker grabbed my arm and twisted it as I was pushed into the store. I just pulled away and kept running. I was hurt but at least I was first in line," said senior Catia Carter.

Carter was one of the many customers at Footlocker at Randall Park Mall on March 3. The chaos began over a pair of shoes. Nike's newest gray patent leather Michael Jordans, to be exact. Footlocker ordered a mere 70 pairs of Jordans, hardly enough to quench the thirst of the many unsatisfied customers.

Footlocker sold out within an hour, and the mayhem began. As Carter experienced, people got angry and started pushing, pulling and ripping down displays,

not to mention disrespecting the employees.

"There was a small riot, if that's what you want to call it," said senior Quiana Harris. "People were pushing, pulling, scratching and grabbing each other out the way so they could be the first to buy the shoes. Once the gate to Footlocker was open, the crowd rushed in and caused a lot of drama for the workers."

As a result of this behavior, Footlocker closed the store for the remainder of the day, leaving the customers even more angry and disappointed.

Why such a craze for a shoe that comes out with a new edition so often? Because they are "slick," according to many Jordan owners, and because of the frequency with which they come

**"The Jordans are special because of their limited availability and the high price. If you get a pair of Jordans you almost are looked at as a celebrity."**

**MARTINO SANDERS**  
sophomore

-Compiled by Rebecca Wolff from Nike.com

out, it is important to be the first to have them.

"The Jordans are special because of their limited availability and the high price. If you get a pair of Jordans you almost are looked at as a celebrity," said Martino Sanders, a sophomore.

"Jordan is the best basketball player, so he probably has the best shoes, so everyone wants them," explained junior Ray Ratcliffe.

"I waited in line for two hours, matter of fact, I waited four hours, because I waited for two hours the first day, then they closed it down. I went the second day, waited for two hours and still didn't get them. They played me," says senior Curtis Cheney.

Carter also had an unpleasant and disturbing experience

that first afternoon, despite being first in line. "Everybody tore up the store, breaking down displays and throwing stuff down," she said. "So after I was smashed between the register and the crowd, the Footlocker staff announced that they were shutting the store down because we were acting like 'a bunch of n\*ggas!!'"

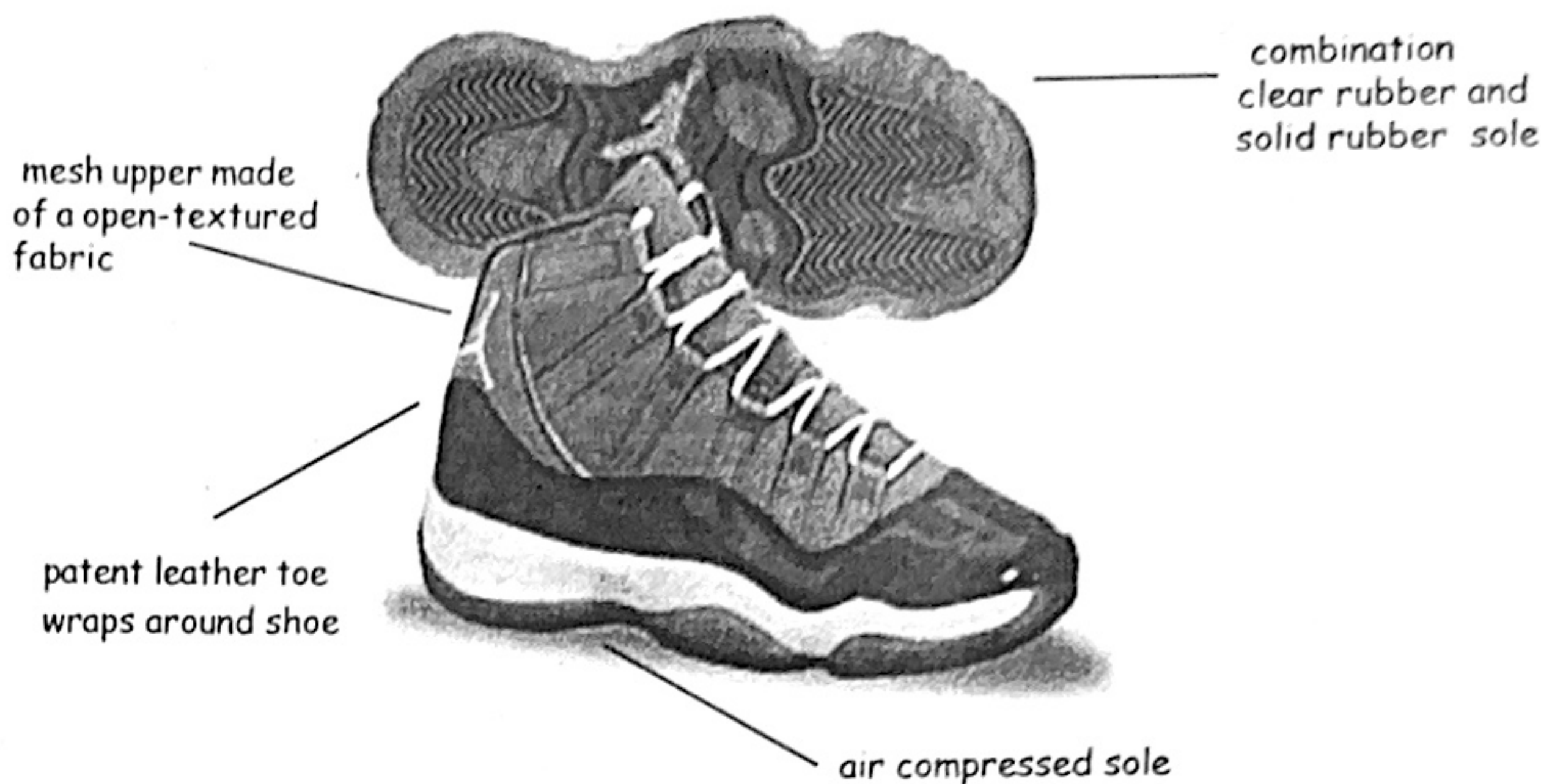
When asked about the incident at the shop, Footlocker declined to comment.

Junior Ray Ratcliffe is one of the few lucky owners of the Michael Jordan shoes. His way of shopping was hassle free, via Eastbay, the shoe catalogue. "I don't wanna deal with all that mess, what happened at Randall," Ratcliffe said.

Marty Garcia, one of the cash-

iers at Footlocker, said that when the newest Jordan's arrive March 11, they are expecting to have 200 pairs this time, 130 more pairs than the last time. Hopefully, this will help to accommodate more customers.

Although Foot Locker has ensured that they will have 200 pairs this time, junior Armon McKinnley has a word of advice, "Getting Jordan's is a dangerous experience. You can get attacked purchasing them and you must be careful walking to your car if you are one of the very few out of hundreds of people who get them, before they sell out," McKinnley said. "If you're trying to get the Jordan's, the best thing to do is to find a spot other than Randall Park Mall to get them."



## A day in the life of a Spanish teacher

•Three students learn what it's like to be a teacher

By **Cassie Heller**  
Staff Reporter

It's 6:30 p.m., and after a long Monday at school, three Shaker seniors re-enter the classroom for another hour and a half. But rather than sitting at desks, this time they are standing at the chalkboard in front of a class full of adults. This winter, National Spanish Honor Society members Amy Lazarus, Sarah Morgenstern and Jess Strange were given the opportunity to teach a Beginner's Spanish course to adults in the community.

Mary Webb, program director for adults at the Shaker Recreation Department, initially could not find enough teachers to teach the class. She contacted Spanish teacher and National Spanish Honor Society adviser Norma Guice, who pitched the idea to members. The girls were very enthusiastic about the job.

Morgenstern feels she positively benefited from the experience.

"It is an interesting experience to be a student and teach simultaneously," she said.

The students prepared for each Monday night class on the preceding Friday morning. Guice discussed possible lesson plans and brainstormed with the students.

Each class began with a recall of the week's homework, which was usually several sections in a Spanish textbook. The student-teachers answered adults' questions thoroughly, and encouraged class participation.

Morgenstern, Lazarus and Strange used a variety of techniques to teach the students. In addition to book exercises, the students took notes from the board and wrote their own dialogues in Spanish.

At the end of each class, one student gave a presentation on a Spanish-speaking country and brought in ethnic food. Student Arthur Kane gave a report on Costa Rica, a country he previously visited.

"I have been to so many Spanish speaking countries," said Kane. His church is also doing an outreach to the Spanish community, so the language will come in handy with communication. Like many of the other students, he entered the class knowing very little Spanish. "Within four weeks I could write a short essay," Kane said.

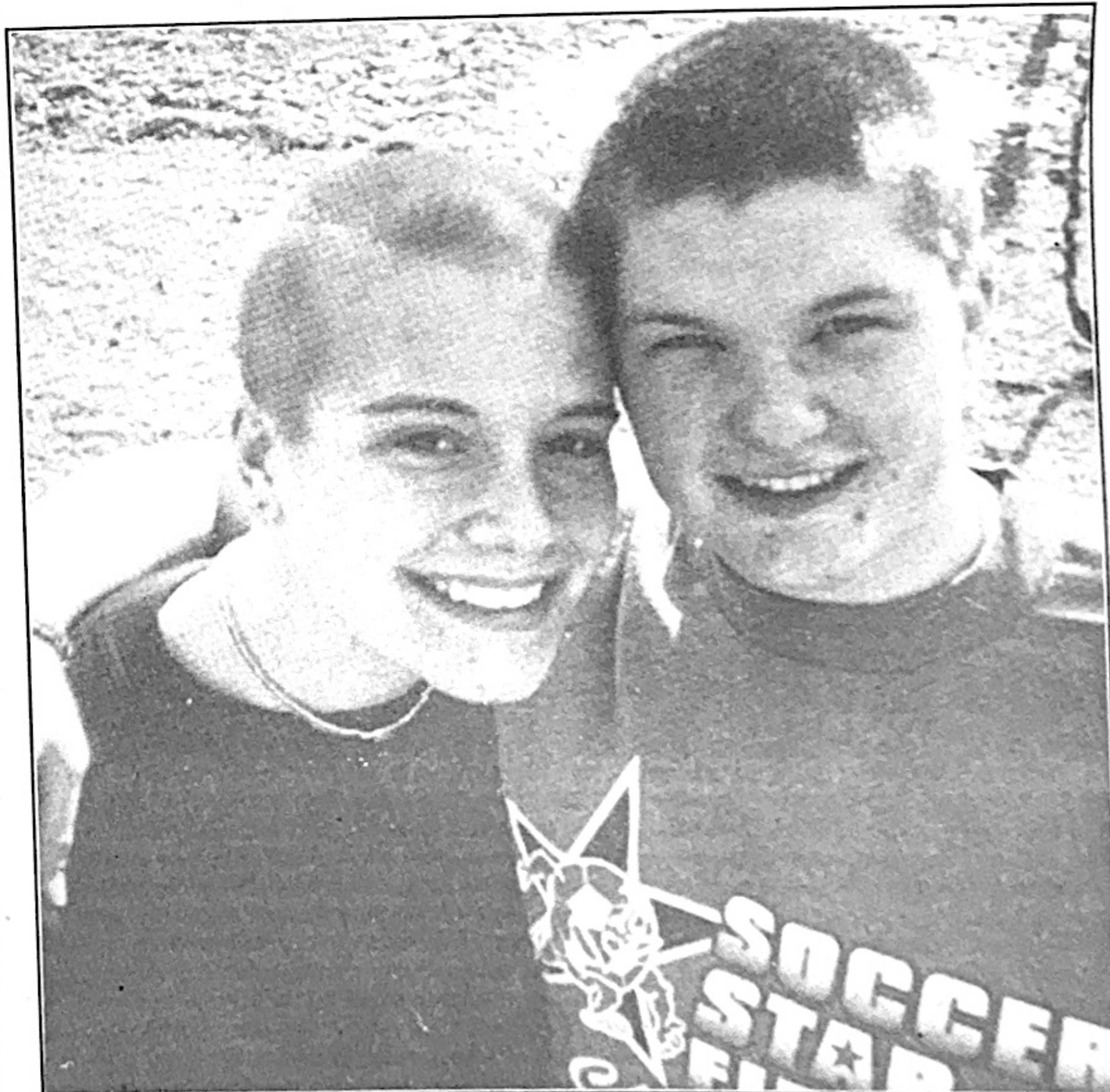
The adult-students have definitely learned more Spanish in the eight weeks than many students in school learn in several months. Yet, not only have the adults learned Spanish, the student-teachers have learned lessons about teaching styles and the difficulties involved with teaching others.

"It is a learning experience for everyone," Morgenstern said.

Another adult-student, Melinda Cookro, an accountant in Shaker, thoroughly enjoyed the class.

"I was very surprised," she said. "The teachers are very mature and easy to learn from. They can teach at our level."

## BUZZY BUDDIES



Jenny Heisler/The Shakerite

Senior Erin Forquer and junior Claire Dietrich, both members of the varsity lacrosse team coincidentally got buzz cuts in the same week in March. Their new do's have sparked lots of interest within the school.



# New Stages XIX: Unplugged

• Shaker theater has its own March Madness while upholding New Stages' good name

By Meryl Kramer  
A&E Co-editor

A Shaker theater phenomenon arrives every year around this time to Shaker's Stage 3.

Newstages XIX has just graced audiences from March 21 until March 24.

Out of the 22 plays submitted this year, the theater department staff chose six to be produced. Six student directors were assigned to these shows, and auditions were held. After a joint effort of the directors and playwrights, along with the guidance of James Thornton and Ned Gallaway, a cast list was created.



Lauren Englehart/The Shakerite  
Matt Ratner and Jordan Rogoff rehearse their opening scene in *The*

There were open auditions for anyone interested in acting, and this year more than half of the 22 actors were unseasoned.

Students rehearsed daily in classrooms from 3-6 p.m. for three straight weeks to bring Shaker this year's New Stages.

## Melon Moon By Debra Kamin Directed By Julie Smolinski

She only liked flowers if they were plastic. She hadn't left her room for 52 days. This was 17-year old Leena (Kari Warchock), the subject of "Melon Moon."

Leena's bizarre personality was introduced to the audience early on in the show, when she debated whether or not to open the curtains of her bedroom window and look outside. A knock on the door brought in Jake (Josh Polster), Leena's only link to outside. Leena questioned Jake about life outside of her room, with that there was hope for her disease. This clue led to an expected ending- but the play would have been dissatisfying if it had ended any other way. The play came to a pleasant finale as Jake charmingly persuaded Leena to open the curtains and begin to open up her world. The creditable acting of Warchock and Polster delighted Kamin's solid script with a highly thought provoking aspect.

Lauren Englehart

## Penitence By Nick Bruch Directed By Ben Spiro

Set in a dark room, "Penitence," written by senior Nick Bruch, was the complex story of Harry's (Chris Delgado) arrival in purgatory and his wish to escape. God's representative, Jack (Rick Jennings) slowly convinced Delgado that the only way to escape was to give penitence and admit to his sin. When Delgado

finally repents, it was too late and the audience was given the impression that he had gone to hell.

Jennings' performance was excellent and saved the play from falling into a confusing, overly deep plot. His one-way conversation with God, through a plant, offered a tint of humor to "Penitence." Delgado also gave a convincing performance, highlighted by a climatic exit from the room. Very well cast, "Penitence" offered a creative, yet mysterious view on a difficult subject.

Joe Tartakoff

## The Flea Circus By Julie Smolinski Directed By Chloe Hill

In a story that portrayed the turmoil between children growing up and parents clinging to their youth, Matt Ratner, Arlo Hill and Jordan Rogoff were perfectly cast in "The Flea Circus," written by Julie Smolinski.

As young children, Rosi (Hill) and Ruby (Rogoff) played circus with their father (Ratner) to avoid loneliness late at night. When the play opened, Ruby and Rosi had grown-up, but their father insisted on playing the game. Rogoff did a superb job of depicting a daughter's pity and sorrow at her father's inability to accept change and move on.

Kudos to the actors for wearing circus costumes on stage, especially Rogoff for coming out in a pink unitard and tutu. But by far the best acting came in Ratner's portrayal of a father's frustration at being unable to catch the fleeting moments of youth in his children.

Joseph Litvak/Bruce



Lauren Englehart/The Shakerite

Above: Chris Delgado and Rick Jennings perform a part of *Penitence*, a play about one man's arrival in purgatory. Right: Matt Ratner strikes a pose during *The Flea Circus*, in which his character tries to keep alive some of his family traditions.

## Choosing Lollies By Joanne Nedrud Directed By Rachel Kiwi

A light and engaging play, "Choosing Lollies" by Joanne Nedrud was by far the most fun of the plays. At first, we thought it was own own theatrical ignorance for not finding a deeper meaning. We soon realized the whole point of the play was just pure silliness.

Nedrud chose to write in an absurd genre and create a play about Lolly and Lou, two oddly likable characters traveling from New York to Paris. Perfectly cast as the two passengers were Lauren Bauer (Lolly) and Derek Prijatel (Lou). Lolly's charming personality and inane mannerisms complemented Lou's matter-of-fact tone. "Choosing Lollies" also had a funny stewardess, (Jesse Strange) who added character to the play. The stewardess walked down the aisle of the plane with a cart full of lollipops, and after serving some to Lolly and Lou continued to pass out lollipops to members of the audience! How fun!

Meryl Kramer and Lisa Meech

## The Exchange By Alex Bentayou Directed By Elliott Klein

Alex Bentayou's play "The Exchange," captured a scene in



Lauren Englehart/The Shakerite

the life of two teenage girls who otherwise wouldn't meet, and by the end are both changed.

"The Exchange" is about Angela (Joanne Nedrud), who has been kidnapped by a band of teens for a hefty ransom. She is kept in a cage during her capture, and soon Angela befriends Kira (Michelle Krivanek), her watching guard. Angela escapes, leaving Kira to await her fate from her superiors.

Though the plot could have been better developed, the play was beautifully written. Right away the audience could tell what was going on and how the plot might unfold. The acting was what really made it a great production, though. Both actresses showed an understanding of their characters and conveyed a real relationship through the dialogue.

Nora Buchstein

## Normal By Ben Spiro Directed By Rachel Klein

"Normal," a very intriguing

play performed in a fresh and original way, was among the best plays at this year's New Stages.

The strength and weirdness of the script immediately caught the audience's attention, and had no problem holding it. Depicting a house with a magic closet, a talking decapitated head and an obsessive-compulsive family, this play was anything but normal.

The characters were in reality quite unique, consisting of a neat-freak mother, Susan (Courtney Resnick), her decapitated, singing, ex-husband Danforth (James Sharp), and their daughters, the over-active Lilly (Lia Silver) and the nonsense poet (Lisa Hukill). Stumbling upon this far-from-normal family is the over-enthusiastic salesman Will (Austyn Cameron). With his superb performance, Cameron provoked many laughs from the audience. A creative script and impressive character interaction combined in "Normal" to leave the audience with an amused smile and some food for thought.

Sean Ferguson



# Luke's percussion skills make Shaker proud

• Rinderknecht played at Severance Hall with the Cleveland Orchestra, showing Shaker how it's really done

By Allison Waithe  
Staff Reporter

He taps, he clangs, he plays with the one of the best ensembles in the country. Musicians work a lifetime to get to Severance Hall, but Luke Rinderknecht is already there, moving and grooving with The Cleveland Orchestra.

The senior's involvement with music began at age 7, when he began taking piano lessons. He switched to percussion when he entered Woodbury in fifth grade.

He continues to play a variety of percussion instruments, including timpani, snare drum and vibraphone, but his favorite is marimba, a xylophone-like instrument with wooden bars and metal pipes beneath. He got a chance to show off his skills on the instrument when he played *Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra* by David Creston with the Cleveland Orchestra on March 13.

"The Cleveland Orchestra is a genius of an ensemble," Rinderknecht said. "They are great people and fun to play with."

Other young musicians, including a high-school flute player and several college students, were considered for the event. Rinderknecht, however, was asked to try out for the spot just weeks before the invitation-only audition.

"I practiced insanely hard for two weeks," Rinderknecht said. He still isn't sure how the Orchestra heard about him.

Rinderknecht's concert was previewed by The Plain Dealer writer and Cleveland Orchestra authority Donald Rosenberg. "Luke was very open, engaging and candid about his musical life," Rosenberg said.

Playing with The Cleveland Orchestra was a major musical step, one that would frazzle many musicians, but the marimba player already has plenty of experience. He has been a member of the prestigious Cleveland Youth Orchestra ever since he was in ninth grade and also in the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony since he was in eighth grade.

Playing a marimba concerto by James Basta with CYWS yielded an exciting adventure for Rinderknecht. "An anonymous benefactor who had seen me play at the concert paid for my trip to Australia with CYWS," he said. "I still don't know who it is." He played the concerto twice while in Australia.

Rinderknecht is also a member of the high school's Wind Ensemble and two award-winning jazz groups: Jazz Ensemble and

Jazz Combo, the latter of which played at this year's Takatori Welcome Assembly on March 16.

"He's a superb all-around musician," Wind Ensemble and Jazz

*"Luke's music added a dimension to the show [Midsummer Night's Dream] that I don't think would have existed otherwise."*

ROOPA VASUDAVEN  
junior

Ensemble conductor Hans Bonhert said. "It's very rare to find someone as accomplished as Luke is in classical as well as jazz music. He has a very bright future in music."

It's not surprising that such a well-rounded percussionist writes music, too. "I love working with movement and dance," he said. He composed musical interludes for the theatre department's 2000 production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

"Luke's music added a dimension to the show that I don't think would have existed otherwise," said junior Roopa Vasudevan, assistant director of the production. "He is a very talented person and we were lucky to have him," she said.

Extensive involvement in music has enabled Rinderknecht to conquer one of the biggest problems that most artists face: stage fright. "I don't get nervous on stage because I have fun performing," he said. "With all the auditions, I've gotten good at getting focused."

Rinderknecht draws his musical inspiration from such timpanists as Tim Adams of Pittsburgh. "He's the definition of



Senior Luke Rinderknecht is no stranger to Severance Hall, playing with the Cleveland Youth Wind Symphony last May.

suave, and he has the best work ethic of anyone I've seen," Rinderknecht said. He also appreciates accomplished musicians in general. "Anytime I hear someone who is one, talented, and two, creative with that talent, I get inspired," he said.

The percussionist, who practices for about three to four hours a day, somehow found time to apply to Julliard and the Cleveland Institute of Music and has already been accepted to the University of Cincinnati Music Conservatory.

## raider of THE MONTH

## the box OFFICE

3/30  
**98° and Baha Men**  
CSU Convocation Center

3/30  
**The Supertones**  
I-X Center

4/4  
**Our Lady Peace**  
Odeon

4/6  
**AC/DC**  
Gund Arena

4/8  
**Yngwie Malmsteen**  
Odeon

4/13  
**Semisonic**  
Odeon

4/13  
**GodSmack**  
CSU Convocations Center

4/14  
**Genuine Son**  
Agora

4/15  
**Lil' Bow Wow**  
State Theater

4/18  
**Tim Reynolds**  
Agora

4/20  
**David Gray**  
Agora

4/27  
**Drop Kick Murphys**  
Agora

4/28  
**Savatage**  
The Odeon

5/3  
**U2**  
Gund Arena

## Samuel L. Jackson's *The Caveman's Valentine* is a new independent thriller

By Anahid Thompson  
Co-editor in Chief

Directed by Kasi Lemmon (*Eve's Bayou*) and featuring Samuel L. Jackson (*Shaft*), in this suspenseful neo-gothic thriller, *The Caveman's Valentine*.

Jackson skillfully portrays a piano prodigy gone sour in Romulus, who was once a promising Julliard student, talented composer and loving father. True to the film's title, Romulus now resides in a cave where he is haunted by the presence of the evil Cournelius Gould Stuyvesant. Rom believes Stuyvesant controls him and all of Manhattan from the top of the Chrysler Building.

While most people take his prophecies as the mere rantings of a madman, beneath the veneer of his foot-long dreads resides a rational and thoughtful man.

When Romulus witnesses a murder on Valentine's Day, he realizes that Stuyvesant has left him a special gift. Soon, Romulus becomes determined to win back the admiration of his estranged daughter by solving the mystery of the murder. But first he must wrestle with the demons in his head to convince everyone around him that he is capable of lucid thought.

Jackson does a wonderful job of convincing the audience that a paranoid schizophrenic caveman actually can capture a killer. An actor lacking Jackson's charisma could not portray such a complex



Anahid Thompson/The Shakerite

*"Rom believes Stuyvesant controls him and all of Manhattan from the top of the Chrysler Building."*

character. Excellent cinematography enhances the images of Stuyvesant and Rom's own demons and complements Jackson's oral representation of the two opposing forces.

The film forces the viewer to decide what is reality and what is relative, and Jackson's outstanding performance does an superb job of making the audience question both.

The film is based on a 1994 Edgar Award-winning novel by George Dawes Green, and producers include such Hollywood heavyweights as Danny DeVito. It's now playing at the Cedar Lee Theatre and is must-see for Samuel L. Jackson enthusiasts.



# Shaker springs into spring sports

• Seven teams gear up for regular season action, and potential state playoff runs

By Marianne Cronin  
Sports Co-editor



Shira Polster and Justine Watanbe warm up for track practice.

It's springtime in Shaker! Warm weather... senior project... Indian's home opener. All signs that the anxiously awaited spring is in the air... and on the field.

All seven of Shaker's squads are ready to kick their seasons into high gear, preparing to forge through regular season play like a spring storm to earn their spot in the state tournament.

The women's lacrosse team, which has held an undefeated at-home record for seven seasons, is anticipating a trip to states in May, despite the loss of several key players to graduation.

"We have a really new team, so we've been working on lots of team bonding," said senior Megan Whitehouse. "We have placed second in the state two years in a row. This year we're hoping to win."

Under the direction of new head coach Erin Kvach, the softball team is intensifying their training to become a force to be reckoned with in the LEL.

"This season we've trained much differently," said junior Joy Allen. "We practice every day after school, and have been lifting weights and running together. So far our hitters have shown our strength."

Hoping to win back-to-back state titles, the men's tennis team has been diligently working together to promote both team unity and success.

"We lost three players from last year, but we still are going to have strong singles and doubles," said junior John Goheen. "Our team has been working out together three times a week, so we're stronger than last year."

Spring break means spring

training for the baseball team, which will be heading to Florida Sunday. Although their regular season won't start until April 9, the Raiders have been preparing themselves with ample practices and drills.

"Our offense will be our strength this season, but we need strong pitching to have a great year," said junior Brett Cheatham. "We've been getting along great, everyone on the team is playing a big part and the upperclassmen have really stepped up as leaders."

Strength in numbers will be the strategy of the women's track team, as their team grew immensely in size with freshmen talent.

"We have the biggest team ever, with 30-35 runners," said senior Charlotte Jacobs. "Indoor track got us ready for conditioning, and now we're hoping to rank second or third in the LEL. Our team strengths are well distributed."

The men's lacrosse team is hoping to build on their returning sophomore and junior talent, emphasizing the team's new-found defensive strength.

"The defense is looking much better

than expected. Additions to our coaching staff—primarily a defensive coach—have helped us in preseason. We should do well, if our team comes together," said senior Dave Gelehrter.

For men's track, last year's young team has become increasingly powerful with talent and experience. They are aspiring towards an LEL title and being state qualifiers.

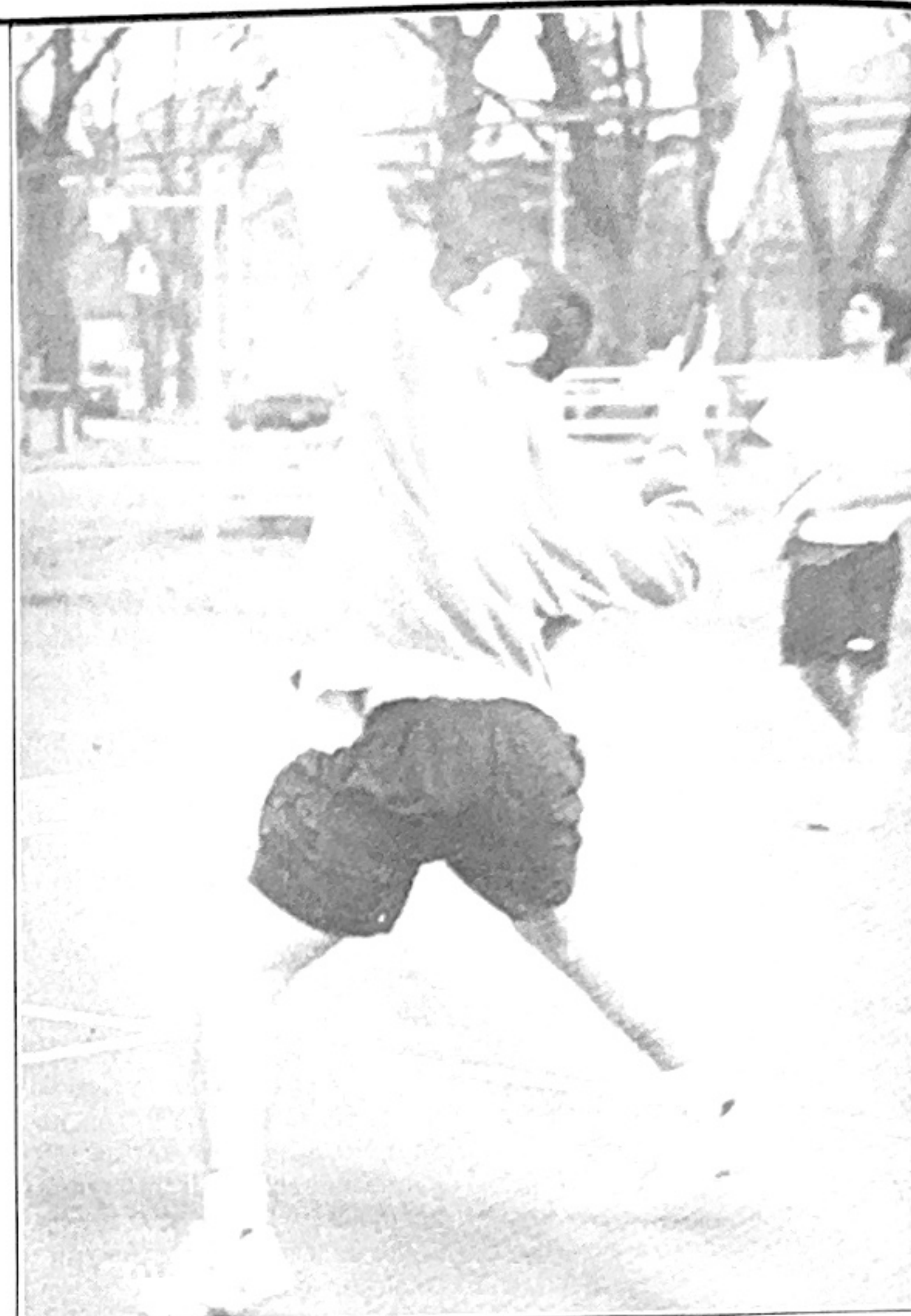
"Conditioning has gone well, and we're preparing for our meets," said sophomore Terrell Thompson. "Our relay teams are looking really good, and will hopefully qualify for states."

Come check out all seven of Shaker's spring sports. See the Athletic Directors for a copy of the spring schedules.

*"Our offense will be our strength this season, but we need good pitching to have a successful year."*

BRETT CHEATHAM

junior



Junior Matt Smith serves the ball during a doubles practice.



Ari Marcellino and Dan Koletsky take a face-off at practice.

## CHAMPS FROM PAGE 16

The great offense came from Matt Bartley, John Dingle and Carson Strang, who composed one of the toughest offensive lines in the state. The strategy was simple: Frustrate the other teams with solid defense, and then capitalize when Shaker had the momentum by scoring a couple of times to put the game

*"We knew all we had to do was play 15 more minutes of good hockey."*

CARSON STRANG  
senior

out of reach. Shaker perfected this game plan and did it to every team in the playoffs.

"Our first line forwards were in better mental and physical shape than anyone else in Ohio, and that is why we won states," said coach Bartley.

Once they got to the state tournament (the final four teams), Shaker was determined to win it. Shaker dominated the semifinal game against Bowling Green from the start, both physically and skillfully, and won 4-2.

Padua and Shaker met four other times before the state final. The Bruins came out on top each time. But the final game was a different story. Although Padua arguably had the best talent in the state and controlled



The Raiders pose with the state trophy after they defeated Padua 3-1.

*"Our first line forwards were in better mental and physical shape than anyone else in Ohio."*

MIKE BARTLEY  
Head Coach

the first two periods of play, the game was tied at the end of the second, 1-1.

"We had been a really close team all season, and we played good games against Padua," said Strang. "We

knew all we had to do was play 15 more minutes of good hockey."

Shaker wasted no time in trying to put the game away. They scored two goals in the first five minutes of the third period and the rest was history.

"We figured that it would be pretty hard to beat us five times in one season, and we just had to keep our heads up throughout the entire game," Evans said.

Matt Bartley agreed.

"It feels great to win states, and it is so fulfilling to win states in my senior year," he said.

## Spring Sports Schedule:

Saturday, 3/21

Men's lacrosse @ Lakewood

Men's track @ Cleveland Hts.

Saturday, 4/7

Women's track @ Medina

Men's track @ Avon lake

Monday, 4/9

Men's tennis @ Valley Forge

Men's baseball @ Elyria

Women's softball vs. Elyria

Tuesday, 4/10

Men's tennis vs. Walsh Jesuit

Women's track @ Euclid

Men's track @ Euclid

Women's lacrosse vs. Andrews

Wednesday, 4/11

Men's tennis vs. Normandy

Men's baseball vs. Euclid

Women's softball @ Euclid

Men's lacrosse vs. Hawken



# What makes a great goalie?

• Skill, mental strength and lightning fast reflexes aren't all it takes to be the last line of defense

By Laura Barnes  
Staff Reporter

According to late Hall of Fame ice hockey goaltender Jack Plante, goaltenders are "the craftsmen of hockey, [who] besides doing their own work, have to correct everybody else's mistakes."

Although this opinion is rather biased, it is somewhat true.

According to the American Sport Education Program in the book *Coaching Youth Lacrosse*, not only is it a physically demanding position, but "goaltending is the most mentally demanding of all the positions on a lacrosse team." Junior ice hockey goaltender

Stephen Keen knows this all too well.

"In a real game, everything depends on you," he said. The mental aspects of being a goaltender are just as important as the physical aspects.

Jack Falla's *Hockey: Learn to Play the Modern Way*, said that a disciplined and analytical mind would help a goalie more than ability.

"All goalies have to learn to let go," ice hockey coach Mike Bartley said. He also said that all goalies must find the way to do this, either through self-talk or relaxation, otherwise the mental stress makes them lose focus. Senior field hockey goaltender Lauren Turner also said that the mental aspects of the position are very important.

"You have to have faith in yourself. You have to believe that no matter where the ball goes that you're going to get it," she said. Keeping focused on the game and getting over previous mistakes or goals that were let in are crucial in being a successful.

"The most important things to have as a goalie are focus and concentration because goalies are on the ice all the time and have to be ready when the play comes into their end," Bartley said.

Keen agreed saying that one of the best things he learned about being a goalie is staying calm and keeping his composure during the big games. Turner said that one of the most important things to do, as a field hockey goalie, is to focus on the ball.

Although focus and concentration play a large role, getting over certain fears also plays a large role in goaltending. According to Falla, goaltenders have two main fears, one is the fear of how well they will play and the other is the fear of being hit by the ball or puck and getting injured.

"You have to deal with knowing you'll get hurt," said senior lacrosse and soccer goalie Erin Forquer. "It's a prerequisite for the position."

Regardless, a true goalie's fear lies in the save itself.

"The biggest fear is not making the save, but you can't think about it," Forquer said. "To be a good goalie, you can never be afraid."

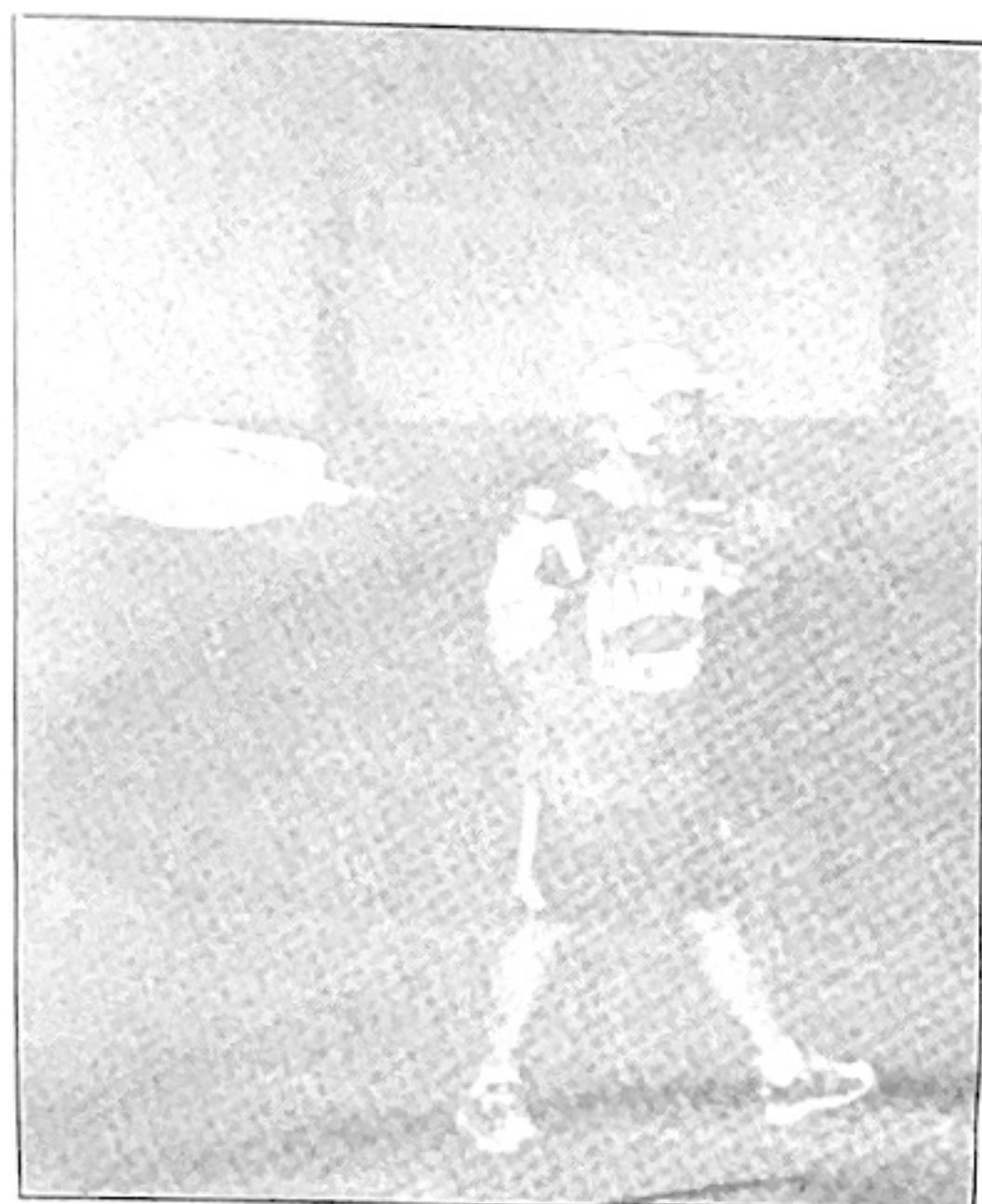
**"You have to deal with knowing you'll get hurt, it's a prerequisite for the position."**

ERIN FORQUER  
senior



Marianne Cronin/The Shakerite

Senior Erin Forquer, a lacrosse and soccer goalie, defends the goal during practice. Forquer will be a lacrosse goalie next year for Ohio State.



Sophomore Chris Martin clears the ball in practice.

## Dingle, Schieman are state competitors

Hockey and swimming standouts helped lead their teams to state titles in the 2000-2001 season

Name: Johnny Dingle

Sport: Hockey

Position: Forward

Year: Junior

**Coach's comment:** "John is a very hard working and disciplined athlete. He's just a guy that the team looks up to for his abilities." -Mike Bartley, head coach



Name: Ellis Schieman

Sport: Swimming

Event: 200 and 500 freestyle

Year: Freshman

**Teammate's Comment:** "Ellis is a necessity to our team because she has a lot of talent, and she has a lot of spunk." -Missy Shaw, sophomore



Courtesy of Beth Dingle

John Dingle helped to lead the Raiders to a state title last season.

**Player's Quote:** "This is the greatest team I have been on, and winning states was one of the greatest experiences of my life." -John Dingle

**Player's Quote:** "I enjoy swimming a lot, I've been swimming since seventh grade. It's a lot of fun and it's a challenge." -Ellis Schieman



Courtesy of Ellis Schieman

State championship swimmer Ellis Schieman prepares for a meet.

Kirsten Whitehouse





# SPORTS

Get Pumped!

Raider's  
spring  
into  
spring  
sports!

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**Marianne Cronin**  
Sports Co-editor

## No news is good news

I'm not ashamed.

I will openly admit that when I pick up a newspaper, whether it be the *Sun Press* or the *New York Times*, I flip directly to the sports section.

Now, it's not that I'm ignorant to the news of our world, but after a long and uneventful day, I enjoy reading about game highlights, preseason commentary and updates on my favorite teams.

The sports section once was a sanctuary from the decline of society, political scandals and the turbulent stock market. It was a place reserved for the merits and triumphs of our fellow humans. In a world that has become increasingly distant and impersonal, the sports section was a place where people came together, regardless of race, age, or origin, to share a common bond—the love of sports.

But lately I've read less and less about my favorite athletes and highlights. Instead I've been reading story after story of greedy players with insatiable needs for signing bonuses.

The sports page has descended from its lofty status and been replaced with coverage worthy of the *National Inquirer*. Each day seems to bring forth new, excessive coverage of squabbling athletes, heinous crimes and more of Vince McMahon's moneymaking schemes.

I would rather read play-by-play commentary of XFL games than hear any more about Derek Jeter's \$19 million contract.

During March Madness, when a sports page should never have to use the excuse of a slow news day, the continuous bickering of Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant litters the headlines.

It's not a crime that the Texas Rangers signed Alex Rodriguez for \$252 million, making him worth more than the entire team. It's a crime that we had to read about it.

I'll still guarantee that there are more attention-grabbing stories in the sports world that don't involve ludicrous amounts of cash, or Allen Iverson—all more interesting than salary caps.

I am a firm believer that sports are a reflection of American society. They produce healthy competition, excitement, and sometimes an inexplicable passion for living.

Now why wouldn't anyone want to write about that?

## Back on top at last

• Raider hockey defeats Padua for state title

By **Eric Edelsberg**  
Sports Co-editor

The Shaker hockey team made a championship run this year that most teams only dream of making. Following a fairly average regular season, the Raiders buckled down for the playoffs and played their hardest.

After clinching their fourth straight Baron Cup title, the Raiders kept the wins a'comin' right through the state tournament. In the state finals, they defeated the winningest team (in a single season) in Ohio history, the Padua Bruins.

The hockey team had been knocking on the door of a third state title in school history for the past three years: In '98, they finished second in the state, in '99, made it to the state semi-finals and in '00, lost in the quarterfinals of the state tournament.

This year, however, for the first time in four years, it looked like Shaker was not going to be an Ohio hockey powerhouse. The team only had two legitimate lines, whereas most high school hockey teams have at least three. The concern was whether Shaker's key players could carry that much weight on their shoulders.

Head coach Mike Bartley managed to put together a winning recipe. He built the team around solid defense and quick breakouts by the offense. Bartley had confidence in the experience sophomore goalie Dan Koletsky gained from starting most games as a freshman. Defensemen Clint Evans, Matt Wallace, Chris Hemmelgarn and Mike Koch added size and ability to Shaker's defense.

"We knew we had to play good defensive hockey to win," said Bartley. "But we had to

SEE CHAMPS, PAGE 14

*"Baron Cup's sweet...but states is sweeter."*

**DAN KOLETSKY**  
sophomore

*"It was a tough game. It took a lot of heart to battle all the way."*

**ZACK AGOPIAN**  
junior

*"No one thought we could accomplish this, but after the third goal we were in control."*

**ARI MARCELLINO**  
sophomore



Hockey players celebrate their victory in the state finals at Brooklyn Rec Center.

## Shaker 3, Padua 1

## Bartley, Slawson receive prestigious coaching honors

By **Marianne Cronin**  
Sports Co-editor

"Slaw is a great coach," said senior Billy Shaw. "Playing tennis for him is really fun."

Head tennis coach Allan Slawson has been named The United States Professional Tennis Association's Coach of the Year.

Slawson, who coaches both men's and women's tennis, won the prestigious award for the Midwest division, which consists of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Slawson is now a contender for the title of The USPTA National Coach of the Year.

"This is a great accomplishment, it's a large area to be representing," Slawson said. "This award is possible through having such good players, who are committed athletes."

Slawson, who coached last

year's state championship men's tennis team, has been coaching Shaker tennis since 1980. Since

*"This award is possible through having such good players, who are committed athletes."*

**ALAN SLAWSON**  
head tennis coach

then, he has published several articles about coaching and has made several coaching video tapes.

Further representing Shaker, hockey coach Mike Bartley received the Ohio High School Ice Hockey Coaches Association Award for Sports-

manship, Ethics and Integrity.

Bartley, who has coached at Shaker since 1977, was selected by Ohio coaches who believed that he exemplified sportsmanship and integrity throughout the season.

This year's state title was Bartley's second, having also coached the 1993 state championship team.

"Coach Bartley is a committed and hard working coach," senior Chris Hemmelgarn said. "He is supportive, and makes practice enjoyable."

## MIDWEST'S BEST

Head tennis coach, and Midwest Tennis Coach of the Year Allan Slawson gives pointers to his team during practice. For more on all seven of Shakers spring sports, see page 14.



David Margolis/The Shakerite

## Winter Sports Wrap-Up

Men's Basketball: 15-8

Women's Basketball: 14-10

Men's Swimming: 9-0

Women's Swimming: 9-0

Diving: 9-0

Hockey: 21-9-3

Wrestling: 1-5 in LEL

## Answers to March Madness Trivia:

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (a)